



**GRENADA ZERO HUNGER CHALLENGE INITIATIVE (GZHCI)**  
**FRAMEWORK DOCUMENT FOR PLAN OF ACTION**  
**2015 – 2019**

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GRENADA

ZERO HUNGER INITIATIVE – FRAMEWORK DOCUMENT  
FOR A PLAN OF ACTION  
2015 – 2019

**Prepared by**

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All errors and omissions are the responsibility of the author.

## Acknowledgement

This document, the Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative – Framework Document for Plan of Action, 2015 – 2019, outlines a long-term vision of goals, broad policy areas, specific policy objectives, immediate priorities and several implementation strategies for the eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition in the State of Grenada. It is based on a broad consensus involving insightful consultations with both private and public stakeholders. A number of initiatives had already been undertaken and precedents established, including, but not limited to, the following:

- A Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Assessment in Grenada had been completed in 2013 in coordination and collaboration with various stockholders. The information collected reflects in large measure some indication on the profile of women and men who are vulnerable and food insecure.
- The National Authority for the National Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative, (NAZHCI), in 2014, conceptualized and implemented the National Strategic Stock-Taking Forum. It expanded knowledge and positioned stakeholders in touch with the plethora of zero-hunger and food security related initiatives across the state of Grenada.
- The 2014 Alternative Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy (GPRS) was prepared by the Non-State Actors and the 2014 Grenada Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy 2014-2018 was prepared by Dr. Patrick Antoine, Mr. Michael Church and Dr. Timothy G. Taylor.

NAZHCI expresses its sincere gratitude to the many colleagues in various Ministries and other experts and colleagues, Dr. Ballayram, Dr. Dessima Williams, Dr. Nigel Gravesande, Mrs. Claudette O’Neale Mr. Daniel Lewis and Mr. Michael Church, whose contributions have been a valuable source of ideas and information. NAZHCI wishes to highlight the exceptional professional competence, enthusiasm, organizational capacity, sense of responsibility and unlimited patience which the team from the Food and Agricultural Organization, (FAO), has demonstrated during the preparation of this document. Dr. J.R. Deep Ford, Dr. Vincent Little and Dr. Jean Fransen from the FAO Regional Office, must be duly acknowledged.

The financial support provided by the FAO for the execution of the NAZHCI must also be appropriately acknowledged and profoundly recognized.

The NAZHCI thanks the Government of Grenada (GoG) for the courtesies extended to facilitate progress of this significant initiative. Eradicating hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition is a commitment that requires the concerted effort of everyone, including governments, civil society, the private sector, academia, producers and parliamentarians alike. In just under one year, Grenada has witnessed a unique approach of collective effort in facilitating a shared dream into concrete action, materialized in outcomes such as the development and finalization of this Plan of Action 2015 – 2019. The NAZHCI thanks everyone for their keen participation and support. Indeed, such invaluable contributions have in large measure, had a tremendous and positive impact. For that and all the other generous support, we are grateful and we look forward for your continued involvement.

Malachy P. Dottin Ph.D., Chairperson NAZHCI

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## Acronyms

CARDI	Caribbean Research and Development Institute
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CL	Community Leader
CPA	Grenada Country Poverty Assessment
E.U.	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GBS	Grenada Bureau of Standards
GDB	Grenada Development Bank
GFNC	Grenada Food and Nutrition Council
GHA	Grenada Housing Authority
GOB	Government of Brazil
GoG	Government of Grenada
GOJ	Government of Japan
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GPRS	Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy
ICT	Information Communication Technology
IICA	Inter-American Institute on the Cooperation of Agriculture
IRD	Inland Revenue Department
NAZHCI	National Authority for the Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative
MALFFE	Ministry responsible for Agriculture Land, Forestry, Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
MNIB	Marketing and National Importing Board
MOF	Ministry responsible for Finance
MOH	Ministry responsible for Health
MOLA	Ministry responsible for Legal Affairs
MOSD	Ministry of Social Development
MTSP	Medium Term Strategic Plan
NCDs	Non Communicable Diseases
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
NSA	Non- State Actor
OECS Sec.	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States' Secretariat
PL	Parish Leader
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
SFPS	School Feeding Programme
ZHCI	Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative

## **Grenada: Acting on a Bold and Urgent Call Against Hunger**

The most fundamental ingredients for life are air, food and water. These fundamental ingredients are generally taken for granted. Indeed, many have taken the position that other resources that are vital for a normal life include, inter alia, decent clothes and housing, and perhaps even a car and a mobile phone. However, it can be argued that these consumer durables continue to the daily reality for most people.

For some, ownership of a vehicle or mobile phone seems to be the end of the world, for some citizens. However, when it comes to chronic hunger, millions of people are literally having a chunk of their lives stolen from them each day. It therefore begs the question: Why do we turn a blind eye to this human tragedy being played out on such a massive scale around the world?

The Grenada Government views the Zero Hunger Challenge as a bold and urgent call to action for the State to make hunger eradication a priority. Importantly, it provides a point of convergence for the efforts of all actors --- Government, the United Nations system, international organization, political and business leaders, civil society and Non Governmental Organizations (NGO's), producer organization, academics and activists to combine efforts to end hunger and bring positive and sustaining change.

The Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative – Framework Document for A Plan of Action 2015 – 2019, is a unique tool which provides a comprehensive overview of the mechanism for achieving the definite on and implementation of Zero Hunger strategies. These must lead to 100 per cent access by all Grenadians to adequate food year round , to the elimination of stunted children less than 5 years old within the first five years of the programme; to the establishment of a basis for the sustainability of all domestic food systems; a 50-100 per cent increase in smallholder production, productivity and income; and a reduction in losses within the food production system. In this regard, one is extremely delighted to point to some observations I had made a few years ago that are today relevant in the development of this document. Indeed, the NAZHCI reflects similar and relevant themes that were central to my successful bid to become Prime Minister of Grenada in 2008. At that time, I called for the rapid eradication of hunger, the creation of a truly sustainable equilibrium between food consumption and production, and greater fairness in the way in which global and regional food systems operate. These are issues of fundamental importance to humanity, which must be addressed simultaneously with renewed commitment and vigour.

Our message on this important subject of achieving zero-hunger in our beloved country is that each of us, whatever we may do in life, can and must play a significant part in bringing about the change. If we succeed, Grenada will be a better, fairer and safer place for all our people, now and in the future; and our success can inspire others.

Should we end hunger now or let it continue? The choice is clear for all of us. I invite all to participate in Grenada's Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative.

Dr. the Rt. Hon. Keith C. Mitchell

Prime Minister of Grenada and Minister of Finance, Energy and National Security

## **Grenada's Success is Success for all**

Successes in fighting hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition are not due to chance or mere economic growth and development. Rather, successful outcomes arise from a deliberate decision to adopt the fight against hunger as a political commitment at the highest level which is embraced and supported by the whole of society.

Such a commitment took shape in Grenada when the Government of Grenada took a policy decision to launch, in 2013, to implement thereafter, a Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative (ZHCI). This is essentially a State-Society contract which embodies a commitment on the part of Government to provide opportunities for all who desire a better future, and are prepared to work to realize their full potential and thus enjoy a fulfilling life.

Hunger is complex and there is no universal recipe for its eradication. Each country has to choose its own path. Today, the positive experiences of Latin America and the Caribbean suggest a number of common factors can serve as a roadmap. These include:

- 1) the political commitment of Governments;
- 2) the mobilization of the whole of society;
- 3) a holistic approach that combines the strengthening of social protection systems with measures to support production, especially of family farming;
- 4) the development and strengthening of a legal framework to consolidate progress; and
- 5) adequate budgets and other resources. All this rely on the active involvement of legislators and parliamentarians.

My most cordial congratulations to the chairperson of NAZHCI Dr. Malachy Dottin for the breadth, content and vision of this document on an issue of such importance, relevance to the current economic situation and bearing on the future. Hunger is one of the oldest and most painful scourges which continue to affect humanity; but hunger can be ended. This is our plan for Grenada.

A strategy to free humanity of hunger forever must focus on two main objectives.

The first is to support the immediate food needs gaps as fast as is humanly possible. For those women and men who need food but cannot afford to grow or buy it right away, the core action must be to support families to enable them to bridge the gap between what they are now eating and their minimum food needs. This requires no new knowledge, but simply good organization and funding.

The second objective is to create a truly sustainable basis for society to meet all its present and future food needs. This requires new knowledge and lots of creative thinking and actions, mainly in agriculture and food production. Happily, there are already many good precedents on which we can build.

We invite all, including our development Partners to join with us in ensuring that here in Grenada; we achieve an unprecedented level of successful implementation of our contract in GZHCI. With that in mind, we know that “our best years are yet ahead”.

Hon. Roland Bhola

The Minister of Agriculture, Lands, Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

## Executive Summary

The National Authority for the Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative, (NAZHCI) has elaborated a Plan of Action as a roadmap intended to steer the implementation and achievement of “getting to zero on hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition” in the State of Grenada for the five year period, 2015 through 2019.

The Plan of Action arises against the background of findings of the 2008. Country Poverty Assessment for Grenada reported that nationally, 37.7% were absolutely poor, living below the poverty line and thus could not simultaneously meet their food and non-food needs. Within that group, 2.4% had been described as indigent, that is, unable to meet any of their food needs. In effect, 35.3 % can meet food needs but not their non-food needs (e.g., housing, health costs, transportation, education, etc.) The report also concluded that 14.6% were vulnerable, that is, they were not poor or indigent at the time the assessment was conducted, but were at risk of falling below the poverty threshold<sup>1</sup> should an unanticipated event such as a natural disaster or economic shock occur. In total, 52.3 % of women and men in Grenada were at risk of being vulnerable, poor or indigent. In this report, we are using the term “at risk” as a proxy of vulnerability to food insecurity. All across the State of Grenada, there are groups of people that are vulnerable to food insecurity, malnutrition and nutrition related chronic non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure, stroke, heart diseases, and cancer. In a Caribbean-wide epidemiological transition, these constitute the major public health challenges.

Further, the burden of disease, disability, and premature death had shifted from young children to adults in the productive years of their life, and as such, there is an urgent need to improve the nutrition and health status of the women and men. Head count poverty is highest in the parish of St. Patrick (56.7%), followed by St. Mark (54.5%), St. Andrew, (44.9%) and St. George, (35.1%). By virtue of their large populations, the concentration of persons who are vulnerable to food insecurity is highest in parishes of St. George, with 18,573 women and men within the parish and 32.9% across the parish, and in St. Andrew, with 15,575 or 28.3%.

At the other end of the spectrum is Carriacou, with 6.6% headcount poverty and 1,223 food insecure within the parish and 2.2% across the parish.

Pertinent policy frameworks provide the analytical and empirical bedrock for the Plan, including the National Economic and Social Transformation Plan and the Food and Nutrition Security Action Plan. These Plans have instructively presented the challenging socio-economic situation in Grenada and provided the main response policy framework of the Government of Grenada on behalf of the State.

The Zero Hunger Plan of Action is comprised of five strategic pillars. These pillars are: growth and wealth creation; expansion of pro-people employment and income generating opportunities; modernization of social protection system and increasing resilience of the poor; improvement in the nutrition and health status of the population

<sup>1</sup>The poverty threshold (or poverty line) is the amount of consumption expenditure that is required to meet a households' or individuals' food and non-food needs. Households/individuals below this poverty line are considered “poor” (often referred to as absolutely poor).



and good governance as well as public sector management. Each strategic pillar is accompanied by a number of activities that will be undertaken by experts and specialized agencies of the Government of Grenada, augmented with strong, on-the ground delivery by experienced non-governmental organizations.

Activities are designed to lead the intended impact and outcomes of the five-year plan, including the following: 100 per cent access by all Grenadians to adequate food year round; elimination of stunting of all children less than 5 years within the first five year framework of the programme; establishment of a basis for the sustainability of all domestic food systems; a 50 - 100 per cent increase in smallholder production, productivity and income; a reduction in losses within the food production system; increased capacity for the production and consumption of healthy foods for targeted groups using urban and peri-urban production techniques in backyard, school gardens, small farms and the national 4-H movement; improved nutrition and health status of the population with a focus on reducing the incidence of obesity, non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and HIV infected persons; strengthened School Feeding Programmes (SFPS); improved management operations of the social protection systems; and increased pro-people employment and income generating opportunities; and improved governance support systems for the development and implementation of the ZHCI in the state of Grenada.

The Plan of Action recognises that poverty, social exclusion and a lack of participation in political making processes are the main causes of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition. Accordingly, its governance approach will make particular effort to integrate all relevant actors and interests for strong collaboration and convergences. A representative approach will be taken as village and parish councils will be involved in the process of getting to zero hunger. Gender equality, the empowerment of women and youth and a policy of inclusion, will constitute key guiding principles and norms of operations, along with transparency and accountability. Effective monitoring, evaluation and reporting are also built in.

The budget for the programme is established at US\$11,308,000. This will cover fourteen (14) elaborated projects which will include five (5) core elements for goal attainment. Funding is expected to come from pledges from a donors' conference held in Grenada, February 5th, 2015.

Initial funding and operational support have already been provided by the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization, FAO, and the Government of Grenada.

The Plan is under the guidance of a multi-disciplinary body of stakeholders from within government as well as the private sector, farmer representative, NGOs, civil society, academics, activists and other specialists who comprise the NAZHCI. This new approach is characterized by inter-institutional coordination, multidisciplinary analysis, respect of the population and their life cycle, and multi-sector policy implementation. The involvement of the executive power and of all actors that shape public policy allow for the concrete manifestation and distinguishing features that characterize the political environment in Grenada.

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## **BACKGROUND**

The vision underpinning Grenada's Food and Nutrition Security Policy is to fully recognize each citizen's right to food and health and to ensure that all, in a sustainable manner, have physical, economic, and social access to safe, nutritious, culturally acceptable, and affordable food in sufficient quantities to meet their needs for an active and healthy life. Consequently, the Ministry of Agriculture, Land, Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment has taken a deliberate policy decision to launch and implement a Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative (ZHCI).

This initiative was officially unveiled by Her Excellency, Governor-General Dame Cécile La Grenade, GCMG, OBE, Ph.D. on October 16th, 2013, in the presence of the Hon. Roland Bhola, Minister of Agriculture, Land, Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, other Members of Parliament, Members of the Diplomatic Corps, Permanent Secretaries in the respective Ministries, Representatives from International Agricultural Agencies notably the Food and Agricultural Organization, (FAO), members of the community of Non-Governmental Organizations and of the Private Sector, other Senior Officers of Government, farmers, members of the general public and members of the media.

Since then, the ZHCI has adopted a Framework Document for the Plan of Action, 2015-2019, for the implementation of the Initiative.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this framework document is to outline a roadmap for the elimination of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition in Grenada within five (5) years.

### **Expected Outcomes**

The impact of the initiative should result in the following:

- The definition and implementation of strategies that lead, in the long-run, to 100 per cent access by all Grenadians to adequate food year round;
- Elimination of stunting of all children less than 5 years within the first five year framework of the programme;

- Establishment of a basis for the sustainability of all domestic food systems;
- A 50 - 100 per cent increase in smallholder production, productivity and income
- A reduction in losses within the food production system;
- Increased capacity for the production and consumption of healthy foods for targeted groups using urban and peri-urban production techniques in backyard, school gardens, small farms and the national 4-H movement
- Enhanced nutrition and health status of the population with a focus on reducing the incidence of obesity, non-communicable diseases (NCHs) and HIV infected persons
- Strengthened School Feeding Programmes (SFPS).
- Improved management operations of the social protection systems.
- Increased pro-people employment and income generating opportunities.
- Improved governance support systems for the development and implementation of the ZHCI in the state of Grenada.

These afore-mentioned outcomes will be realized via the following main initiatives:

- The active promotion of transparency and accountability throughout the life cycle of the Zero-Hunger Challenge Initiative (ZHCI);
- Development and implementation of information, education and communication campaigns;
- Forging synergies with key partners and stakeholders and the reduction of duplication; and
- The establishment of mechanisms for the monitoring and evaluation of the ZHCI.

### **Some Early Achievements**

Further to the 2013 announcement of the policy decision of the Government of Grenada to launch and execute the Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative for the elimination of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition, the following have already been achieved:

- Cabinet mandated the National Authority for the Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative to coordinate and implement the Zero Hunger and food security programme. (Function appended)
- A Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Assessment and Mapping in Grenada had been executed out and presented to various stockholders.
- The Authority conceptualized and implemented the launch of the Buy Local, Eat Local / Health and Wellness multimedia campaign and Farmers' Market in the State of Grenada. These seeks to strengthen local economies by promoting locally grown produce and manufactured products, while simultaneously showcasing entrepreneurially minded individuals within and beyond the agricultural sector.

- The Authority conceptualized and implemented the Grenada Food and Nutrition Security Training/Demonstration Programme at various schools. The purpose is to promote agricultural production among 4-H groups as a means of families earning income and creating or expanding a livelihood option for them.
- The Authority conceptualized and implemented the National Strategic Stock-taking Forum that expanded knowledge and put stakeholders in touch with a plethora of zero-hunger and food security related initiatives that are scattered across the state of Grenada.
- The Authority conceptualized for implementation the National Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative plan of action 2015 -2019 and a Donors' Conference to provide an opportunity for donors to pledge to the Initiative.

It is instructive to note that the FAO has funded and assisted the developmental process of all the above mentioned achievements.

## **PROBLEM DEFINITION**

The present economic situation in Grenada is extremely challenging, if not difficult. A review of secondary data sources was conducted as an initial step towards identifying the vulnerable and insecure livelihoods in Grenada. The Grenada Country Poverty Assessment (CPA) (2008) provided an instructive insight into the poverty and social living conditions of the country's population. A summary of this information is presented in this section.

The 2008 CPA report concluded that nationally 37.7% were absolutely poor, living below the poverty line and thus could not simultaneously meet their food and non-food needs; within that group, 2.4% were indigent, that is, unable to meet any of their food needs.

In effect 35.3 % can meet food needs but not their non-food needs (e.g., housing, health costs, transportation, education, etc.) The report also concluded that 14.6% were vulnerable, which indicated, they were not poor or indigent at the time the assessment was conducted, but were at risk of falling below the poverty threshold<sup>2</sup> should an unanticipated event such as a natural disaster or economic shock occur. In total, 52.3 % of women and men in Grenada were at risk of being vulnerable, poor or indigent. In this report, we are using at risk of being vulnerable, poor, or indigent as a proxy of vulnerability to food insecurity.

<sup>2</sup>The poverty threshold (or poverty line) is the amount of consumption expenditure that is required to meet a households' or individuals' food and non-food needs. Households/individuals below this poverty line are considered "poor" (often referred to as absolutely poor).

The distribution of poverty in Grenada varies widely by parish. Table 1 shows the parishes and the distribution among them of four poverty indicators, viz. the headcount poor, the poverty gap, the poverty severity and the proportion of women and men who are vulnerable to food insecurity. The Headcount Poverty is the proportion of the population who are poor and assumes they are all equally poor. The *acuity of poverty* is measured by two indicators: (i) The “Poverty Gap” (which shows how much more the poor needs on average to take them out of poverty); and (ii) The “Severity of Poverty” (similar to the Poverty Gap, but it takes into consideration the inequality in income distribution).

Finally, the population that is vulnerable to food insecurity is the proportion of women and men who are at risk of being vulnerable, poor or indigent. These are persons within livelihoods that: (i) have limited assets; (ii) do not benefit from external risk management through policies, laws and regulations; and (iii) who engage in livelihood activities that are affected negatively by shocks, trends and seasonality, and because of, this lack the resilience to sustain their livelihoods above a given food security threshold should an event such as a natural disaster or economic shock, occur.

**Table 1** shows that three parishes (St. Andrew, St. George and St. Patrick) account for 74.5% of persons vulnerable to food insecurity, with the next three parishes (St. David, St. John and St. Mark) accounting for an additional 23.4%. Together, these six parishes account for 97.9% of persons who are vulnerable to food insecurity in Grenada.

**Table 1:**

**Indicators of Poverty and Vulnerability to Food Insecurity—Grenada, 2008.**

Parish	Headcount <sub>1</sub> (%)	Poverty Gap <sub>1</sub> (%)	Poverty Severity <sub>1</sub> (%)	Pop <sub>2</sub>	Pop Vulnerable to Food Insecurity (Within Parish) <sub>3</sub>	Pop Vulnerable to Food Insecurity (Across Parish) (%)
St. Andrew	44.9	10.6	3.5	26503	15875	28.2
St. George	35.1	10	4.2	38251	18513	32.9
St. Patrick	56.7	16	6.8	10503	7531	13.4
St. David	29.5	8.7	3.6	12877	5730	10.2
St. John	36.7	8.8	3	8466	4377	7.8
St. Mark	54.5	18.3	9.2	4406	3062	5.4
Carriacou	6.6	2.4	0.9	5661	1223	2.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>40,332</b>			106,667	56,312	<b>100</b>

Source: <sup>2</sup>Grenada CPA (2008).<sup>2</sup>2013 data from Statistical Office, Grenada. <sup>3</sup>Estimated by taking the product of the headcount poverty and the respective parish population then increasing the result by 14.7% (the percentage of vulnerable population).

In addition it shows the location of these six parishes along with their respective poverty and vulnerability indicators. The proportion of the population that is vulnerable to food insecurity is arranged in descending order by parish. Thus, although the highest percentages of headcount poverty was located within the parishes of St. Patrick and St. Mark, the concentration of persons who are vulnerable to food insecurity is highest in the parishes of St. George and St. Andrew, each with a higher population than the other parishes.

Grenada's economy is very small, open, vulnerable and dependent mainly on earnings, employment and income generation from tourism and the export of spices and other products and from other economic activities. Other sectors that are increasingly contributing to national value-added include light manufacturing (mainly paper products and electronic components), off-shore banking and internet/e-commerce.

The primary sectors contributed 11.7 percent to Gross Domestic Product (GDP)<sup>3</sup> in 1995, but declined sharply to 5.6 percent in 2012, following only modest contributions of banana after the devastation of the nutmeg and cocoa sub-sectors by hurricanes in 2004 and 2005. The relative contribution of the secondary sectors to GDP also declined over the same period, from 20.7% in 1995 to 11.2% in 2012.

The relative contribution of the tertiary sectors to GDP in 1995 was 67.7% and increased to 83.2% in 2012. These changes reflect noticeable sectoral shifts in Grenada's economy over the past 18 years: the relative contribution of the primary and secondary sectors' contribution to GDP declined by 52.1% and 45.9%, respectively, while the tertiary sectors' contribution increased by 22.9% (Table 2).

In effect, the structural shift of the economy is away from primary and secondary sectors, where the poor and food insecurity tend to be clustered, and towards the tertiary sector, where they are less present.

**Table 2: Structure of Grenada Economy and Sectoral Change, 1995-2012, Selected Years.**

Sector	% of GDP				Sectoral Change (%) (1995-2012)
	1995	2000	2008	2012	
Primary Sectors <sup>1</sup>	11.7	6.0	4.4	5.6	-52.1
Secondary Sectors <sup>2</sup>	20.7	20.8	20.2	11.2	-45.9
Tertiary Sectors <sup>3</sup>	67.7	73.2	75.4	83.2	22.9

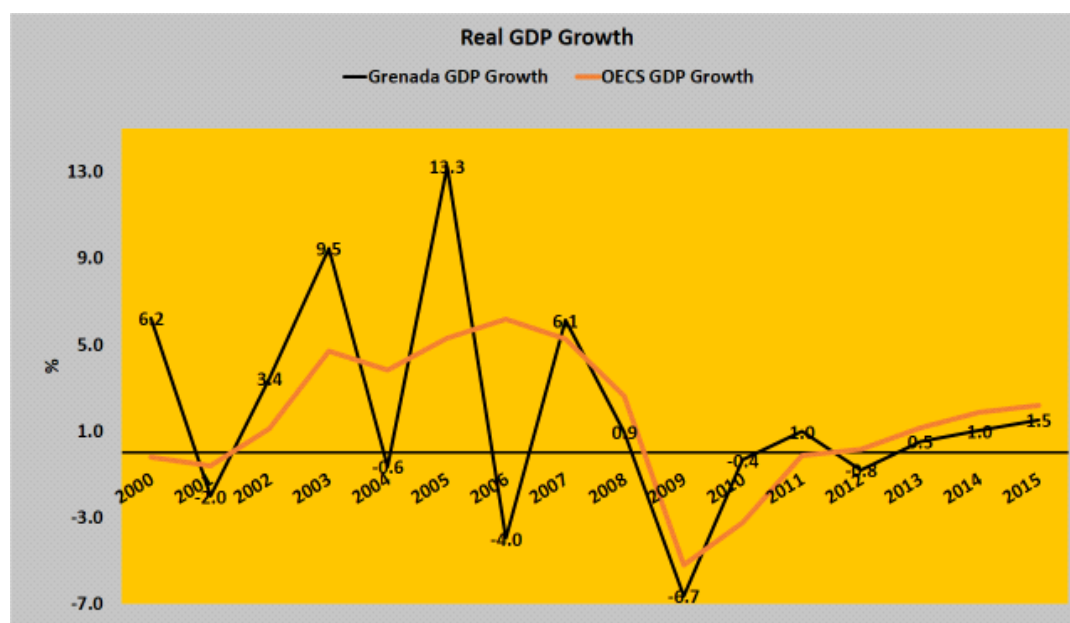
<sup>3</sup> We recognize that other measurements are being used, such as the Human Development Index.

Source: Computed from data from the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB). [www.eccb-centralbank.org](http://www.eccb-centralbank.org), October 2013, and IMF, Country Report, Sept. 1998.[www.imf.org](http://www.imf.org), 2013.

<sup>1</sup>Agriculture (crops, livestock), Forestry, and Fishing, Mining, and Quarrying.<sup>2</sup>Manufacturing (food products and beverages; textiles, clothing and footwear; other manufacturing), Electricity and Water Supply, and Construction.<sup>3</sup>Wholesale and Retail Trade; Hotels and Restaurants; Transport and Communication; Financial Intermediation; Real Estate, Renting and Business Services; Community, Social and Personal Services; and General Government Services.

Chart 1 shows growth performance of the Grenada economy since 2000 with projections for 2013-15. The GDP growth of the economy follows the general pattern of that of the combined Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), but with more erratic movements in the period 2002-07. Grenada's economic growth appears to be based upon strong economic fundamentals but has been adversely affected by exogenous forces (IMF 1997, 2000).

**Chart 1: Real Annual GDP Growth—2001-2015 (2006=100)—Grenada**



**Source:** Data from Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB). [www.eccb-centralbank.org](http://www.eccb-centralbank.org), October 2013.

## STRATEGIC ANALYSIS AND RESPONSE

The government's policy response to Grenada's poverty and economic situation has been to craft a national poverty reduction strategy, within the context of a broader National Economic and Social Transformation Plan, as well as to implement a Food and Nutrition Security Action Plan which this project will use. The core elements are:

- Growth and wealth creation;
- Expansion of pro-poor employment and income generating opportunities;

- Modernization of social protection system and increasing resilience of the poor;
- Improvement in the nutrition and health status of the population;
- Good governance and public sector management.

In order, to achieve these goals, there are key strategic elements that will need to be undertaken. These include:

- Re-vitalizing the agricultural sector in order to enhance the rural economy, thereby empowering the poor to better access food;
- Stimulating economic growth through expanded trade, particularly in agriculture;
- Embarking on a tourism sector diversification programme, which strengthens the tourism product particularly through sector development in rural areas and in Carriacou and Petite Martinique.
- Enhancing public education awareness, so as to better utilize local foods and improve nutrition status.

There is general consensus and acceptance that the agricultural sector has a major role to play in economic growth and diversification efforts, particularly given the country's scope to increase domestic agricultural production against food insecurity and the current large import bill. As such, in this ZHCI the sector is perceived as potentially a major contributor to the reduction of hunger and poverty as well as one of the fundamental pillars of food and nutrition security - that are associated with economic expansion. However, the development of the sector would have to be pursued with a new thrust that recognizes the importance of climate smart agriculture to shield against climate change impacts and threats; and there must also be market development through value added processing, and, where feasible, export trade, both as drivers for the development of the sector. It is also recognized that structural weaknesses and other challenges facing the sector would have to be addressed if agriculture is to perform this important role.

Critical to the analysis is the fact that Grenada, like other Member States of the Caribbean Region, is currently experiencing rapid dietary and epidemiological transitions. In fact, the changing food consumption patterns, linked to the increased reliance on food imports, have heightened concerns in health circles, with regard to the rising levels of dietary-related illnesses and diseases among a wide cross-section of the region's populations. With respect to the epidemiological transition, nutrition related chronic Non Communicable-Diseases (NCDs) such as obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure; stroke, heart diseases, and cancer have replaced malnutrition and infectious diseases as the major public health problems. Further, the burden of disease, disability, and premature death has shifted from young children to adults who are essentially in the productive years of their life. In this context, there is the urgent need to improve the nutrition and health status of the population.

There are no targeting instruments for incisive focus on the needs of at risk population, viz., women and men, who are indeed affected differently. While preliminary analyses of the social protection programmes indicate that several constituencies are targeted, at



the same time, there are some critical areas which are unattended, namely: (i) Early Childhood Development / pre-school programme for poor children; (ii) Many children remain out of primary school; (iii) Inadequate labour market programmes, including weak support to jobless youth and for poor youth attending vocational training; and (iv) low income housing and access to basic services (water, sanitation and electricity).

At the household level, poverty has resulted from a combination of factors such as limited access to productive employment opportunities; inadequate physical assets, such as capital and credit, even on a small scale; and poor access to markets. The worst affected are female headed households, small farmers, urban slum dwellers; landless rural workers, fisher folks, street children, orphans, persons with disabilities, households headed by the elderly, pensioners, the unemployed and those in low-paying formal and informal employment, and persons living with HIV and AIDS. These groups make up a significant proportion of Grenada's population.

The sustainable expansion of pro-poor employment and income generating opportunities are critical to the elimination of hunger and food insecurity and malnutrition in Grenada, never to return, despite basic challenges that might arise. This can be effected by increasing access to education, training and self-upgrading of skills in key, but competitive economic areas, that are of importance to national development. This includes knowledge of the use of ICTs, agriculture and other industries and the provision of credit for micro-enterprises and for SMEs is also of strategic value. However, such programmes must be driven, to a large extent, by labour market demand analysis to determine the areas for skills training.

The importance of setting common goals and establishing and sustaining an integrated approach must be recognized. In this context the critical issues that must be highlighted include the need for:

- Building good governance;
- Political commitment;
- Long term sustainability – poverty alleviation linked to structural problems with implications for good governance and for promoting long term sustainability;
- Commitment to the implementation process by various strategic partners;
- Better integration, coordination and collaboration among diverse activities of all involved and;
- Opportunities for linkages e.g. including backyard/school gardens and nutrition education in the National School Meals Programme; maintaining registers of under- nourished children and of the impact of social protection programmes on intended beneficiaries.

## **4. THE FRAMEWORK – ELEMENTS OF THE PLAN OF ACTION**

### **4.1 Overview**

Real economic growth in Grenada since 2008 has averaged less than one percent annually, and it is critical that this challenging situation would have to be addressed urgently in light of this country's Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative. Empirical literature by the World Bank ([www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org)) instructively reveals that while economic growth is important for poverty reduction; the focus should be on pro-poor growth. In particular, growth that is based on increasingly higher investment rate will face diminishing marginal returns unless accompanied by productivity gains through technological advances, improved management know-how, and increases in skills through education. Further, growth that derives from the intensive use of unskilled labour will have a greater immediate impact on reducing the incidence of poverty than will growth built on skilled labour, given that the poor are more likely to be unskilled. Finally, there is evidence that that faster economic growth is necessary to reduce poverty in countries with high inequality. These issues are at the core of the Plan of Action advanced below.

The Plan of Action is comprised of five (5) broad elements:

- Economic expansion and diversification of the agricultural sector, particularly given the large import bill and scope to increase domestic agricultural production.
- Improved nutrition and health status of the population.
- Improved management operations of the social protection systems.
- Expansion of pro-poor employment and income generating opportunities.
- Good governance and management of hunger and poverty programmes— by institutionalizing the rules of good governance evident in greater transparency and accountability in the delivery of public services.

A participatory monitoring and evaluation (M&E) approach is being proposed as an in-built component of the Grenada Zero Hunger Initiative plan of action. The intention is to involve as many persons as possible in the M&E process—project staff, beneficiaries and other relevant stakeholders—with a direct stake in the project. Additionally, a facilitator will be contracted to provide technical leadership and coordination to the M&E process. M&E is particularly important for two sets of reasons. First, monitoring will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of project implementation; ensures that the work-plan is kept on track; informs the management team when things go wrong and whether the resources available are sufficient and are being used well; and provides timely and appropriate feed-back on what is being implemented against the planned goals and objectives of the project. Second, evaluation is important to arrive at some conclusion about the actual project impacts compared to the baseline status situation which the project intended to change. In particular, evaluation will reveal whether or not, or to what extent the project accomplished what it set out to achieve and whether it made a difference as envisaged by the project. In effect, evaluation is an effective accountability tool which is critically important when public funds are involved.

Some amount of baseline information is already available, for example, poverty and vulnerability to food insecurity by selected livelihoods across parishes; unemployment among the working poor by gender and age-group; the location of vulnerable livelihoods, and estimates of how many persons are vulnerable to food insecurity. However, given the thrust of the Grenada Zero Hunger Initiative (i.e., elimination of hunger in Grenada), it would be particularly useful to have some baseline data on the prevalence of hunger across the country. To achieve this, it is proposed that a Household Hunger Scale (HHS) questionnaire be administered among a sample of households in food-insecure areas of Grenada.

## **4.2 Economic Expansion and Diversification of the Agricultural Sector**

The agricultural sector is perceived as having the potential to contribute significantly to the reduction of hunger and poverty as well as to be one of the fundamental pillars of food and nutrition security; these outcomes are associated with economic expansion.

However, the development of the agricultural sector would have to be pursued with a new thrust that recognizes the importance of climate smart agriculture and market development through value added processing and where feasible export trade as drivers for the development of the sector. Agriculture has to be a source of livelihood for those who are productively involved in the sector, since it has the realistic capacity to feed the poor and the nation as well. It is recognized that the structural weaknesses and other challenges facing the sector would have to be addressed if the sector has to perform this important role.

It is within this context that the following broad areas were identified as critical elements in developing the action plan:

- Special programme of assistance for the increased production, value added processing and consumption of locally produced staples and livestock products with emphasis on, sour soup, banana, cassava, tania, sweet potato, small ruminants and poultry;
- Special programme of backyard and school gardening to increase food availability at the household and school levels;
- Deliberate focus on women and youth engagement with and participation in the process of agricultural sector development;
- The adoption of technologies and approaches which address the high costs of production and facilitate increases in productivity;
- Improved post-harvest handling, storage and value addition;
- Marketing support and trade facilitation, inclusive of the strengthening of the sanitary and phytosanitary systems;
- Strengthening/enforcement of legislations, particularly those related to access to natural assets and utilization of lands, forestry, fishery, livestock and praedial larceny.

## **4.3 Improved Nutrition and Health Status of the Population**

This component of the Plan of Action will cover the following broad actions:

- Increasing the access of vulnerable groups to nutrition, health care and social protection;
- Improving the dietary quality of the food consumption of vulnerable families;
- Ensuring that nutrition-related actions by policy makers, food manufacturers and consumers are aligned to the national food-based dietary guidelines (FBDG);
- Expanding the coverage of the school meals programme;
- Ensuring that school children are consuming healthy school meals and are making more healthy choices away from school;
- Reducing the impact of obesity, non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and HIV to families' economic vulnerability; and
- Establishing an objective early warning and evaluation/monitoring of food security vulnerability for decision making.

#### **4.4 Improved Management Operations of the Social Protection Systems**

It has been established that the efficiency and effectiveness of resources used for hunger reduction could improve with better identification and targeting of beneficiaries; and that the utilization of programme management instruments, including management information and monitoring and evaluation systems can also make a difference.

In this context, this component of the Plan of Action will focus on the following critical actions:

- Identifying the hungry, food insecurity and malnourished women and men through a comprehensive household survey;
- Closing the early childhood development/pre-school coverage gap for the poor;
- Preparing resilience-strengthening responses to economic shocks, climate change and other natural disaster;
- Reforming pension programmes to be stronger hunger-fighting tools to those who need;
- Promoting transparency and accountability;
- Strengthening coordination mechanisms for all social protection programmes;
- Improving the management operational systems to include the consolidation of programmes, adjusting the institutional placement of some programmes, and establishing a unified targeting system and payment mechanisms;
- Developing and implementing information, education and communication campaigns;
- Investing in information management and required accountability systems for all beneficiaries to reduce duplication; and
- Establishing programmes for information monitoring and evaluation systems.

#### **4.5 Expansion of Pro-poor Employment and Income Generating Opportunities**

This component of the Plan of Action will seek to strengthen existing efforts being made by the Ministries of Education, Social development, Health and Agriculture and NGOs in the expansion of pro-people employment and income generating opportunities for the elimination of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition.

This can be effected through the provision of support to efforts aimed at:

- Conducting labour market demand analysis to determine the areas for skills training
- Increasing access to education, training and self-upgrading skills in key but competitive economic areas
- Provision of credit for micro-enterprises and SMEs
- Youth and Women Initiative in Skills and Empowerment (WISE) Programme: training for unemployed and under-employed youth and women in the agriculture and other related industrial (agro-food processing, fish preparation and storage etc.), general construction and boat repair and maintenance
- Training for small producers in packaging, pricing and marketing
- Livelihoods training for residents at Cedars Home by establishing a model poultry farm, backyard garden and small agro-food processing facility
- Parenting education for members of selected households in the poverty eradication component
- Providing assistance to 11 00 small scale farmers to cope with the recent weather fluctuations through a system of incentives to improve, i) the use of climate smart agricultural input; ii) the adoption of water management technology; and iii) the carrying out of climate smart livestock practices.

#### **4.6 Good Governance and Management of Hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition initiative.**

This component seeks to work with political actors, members of parliament and those in government, towards building political awareness and advocacy support around hunger, food security and malnutrition issues. The goal here is to increase the visibility and inclusion of this issue as a priority to the public policy agenda of the country. It also entails the establishment of a transparent and accountable institutional mechanism based on good governance, for the effective management of the Plan of Action of the ZHCI program. This mechanism should operate in a coordinated manner, articulating multispectral efforts to advance food and nutrition security and the realization of the right to food.

Institutional arrangements and capacities for policy and programme implementation will achieve more effective, efficient and sustainable results to the extent that governance mechanisms are coherent with human rights principles. The experience of other countries in the region in policy development and implementation which

consider a human rights approach should be considered so as to generate a discussion on governance mechanisms for different components of the food system.

With this in mind, the following broad actions will be undertaken:

- Recognise that poverty, social exclusion and a lack of participation in political – making processes are the main causes of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition for women and men.
- Institutional mechanism established to ensure effective integration, coordination and collaboration among the diverse actions and institutions involved in the process.
- Establish representative and accountable forms of governance in the state of Grenada: (establish zero hunger stockholders committee in villages and parishes).
- Establish institutional mechanisms to ensure effective integration, coordination and collaboration among the diverse actions and institutions involved in the process.
- Identify parliamentarians and civil society actors willing to advance food and nutrition security issues in the legislative agenda, generating opportunities for a regional dialogue.
- Improve the capacities of political and technical actors, including youth, on right to food, health and governance issues.
- Provide learning and exchange opportunities on public policy development and implementation in food and nutrition security-related areas that form part of the Plan of Action (social protection, school feeding, nutrition, etc.)
- Ensure gender sensitisation training for officers in agriculture, hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition programmes
- Monitor integration of women’s empowerment and gender equality into the project activities and results
- Monitor and evaluate the ZHCI project activities and report results to all relevant stakeholders.

## **Annex 1**

### **TABLE1**

SUMMARY MATRIX OF PRIORITY AC TIONS

2015-2019

Priority areas of action	Outputs (O)	Activities (EO)	Support agency	Government focal point
<b>Outcome 1</b>  <b>Rural production system is strengthened and linked to national food and nutrition security policies</b>	<b>Product 1.1</b>  Special Programme of Assistance developed and implemented for the increased production, Technologies and approaches adopted, value added processing and consumption of locally produced staples, fisheries, and livestock products with emphasis on sour soup, banana cassava, sweet potato, tania, small ruminants and poultry	Establishment of six pilots protected agriculture project to serve as a demonstration and training facility for farmers.	FAO	MALFFE
		Development of a seed and genetic material seed bank and implementation mechanism for the production/importation, conservation, evaluation and distribution of high quality planting and genetic material executed	FAO IICA CARDI	MALFFE
		Adoption of new/improved technologies in livestock breeding and production promoted.	FAO\ IICA	MALFFE
		Sustainable exploitation of the country's fisheries resources and greater investment to increase the availability of fish and fish products promoted.	OECS	MALFFE
		Best climate smart practices for sustainable production of food crops, livestock, fish and other food commodities/products identified, documented and disseminated	IICA/CARDI	MALFFE
		Strengthening producer's organization with view to achieve economies in sourcing inputs.	FAO/WFP	MALFFE
		On farm mechanization through greater use and improved access to modern and appropriate small-scale equipment/tools promoted	GOB	MALFFE



Priority areas of action	Outputs (O)	Activities (EO)	Support agency	Government focal point
	<b>Product1.2</b> Improved post-harvest handling, storage and value addition	Training provided in post harvest handling for farmers, MNIB staff and extension personnel	FAO IICA	MALFFE
		Requirements for food storage assessed and proposals developed regarding produce storage arrangements	MNIB IICA	MALFFE
		Technical assistance, capacity building and other support provided to the Agro-processors Association and other agro-processors in the state of Grenada in areas related to new processing techniques, sourcing of packaging and labeling materials, access to information on food safety standards, and product development and promotion, with a special focus on women.	FAO MNIB IICA	MALFFE
	<b>Product 1.3</b> System of marketing and trade facilitation process enhanced and linked to government social programs	Assistance provided in strengthening the market information system.	FAO	MALFFE
		MNIB and the School Feeding Programme operations streamlined to facilitate marketing of agricultural produce .	FAO WFP	MOE GFNC MOH

Priority areas of action	Outputs (O)	Activities (EO)	Support agency	Government focal point
	<b>Product 1.4</b> Strengthening and enforcement of legislations, particularly those related to access to and utilization of land and water	Improvements of land titling and utilization policies, updating them to ensure better access to water; and the collateralization of land entitlement to access credit.	FAO	MALFFE
		Support provided for water harvesting, storage and adoption of water management practices and technologies which ensure optimal use of the scarce water resource.		
	<b>Product 1.5</b> Special program of backyard and school gardening implementation to increase food availability at the household and school level	Support provided to expand the present scale of operation of backyard and school gardening programmes, with special focus on women and youth.	FAO WFP	MALFFE
	<b>Product 1.6</b> Small farmer vulnerability reduction Initiative project	Provide assistance to 1100 small scale farmers to cope with recent weather fluctuation	GOJ	NAZHCI

Priority areas of action	Outputs (O)	Activities (EO)	Support agency	Government focal point
<b>Outcome 2</b>  <b>Nutrition and health status of the populations improved through articulated actions in health education, social protection and agriculture</b>	<b>Product 2.1</b> Increased access of vulnerable groups to nutrition, health care and social protection, with a focus on reducing pre-school stunting from 5 % to near zero and wasting from 5 % to near zero	Prepare list of children nutritionally at risk from community clinics and other sources	FAO/WFP PAHO	MOSD/GFNC
		Use community approach in identified at-risk areas to provide counseling and healthcare	FAO/WFP PAHO	MOH/MOSD/ GFNC
		Update and submit list of at-risk children to Social Protection Departments for priority support to those households through the various protection services	FAO/WFP PAHO	MOH/MOSD/ GFNC
	<b>Product 2.2</b> Improved dietary consumption of vulnerable families, with 90% of beneficiaries selecting food items for healthy eating. It is necessary to link with special programme of backyard and school gardening (Product1.5)  Certified zero hunger restaurants using 75 % local product	Nutrition education programs introduced as a condition in commodity cash transfer protection programs.	PAHO/FAO/WFP GRENCODA	GFNC/MOSD
		Food Vendors (who service these protection programs) must ensure that a variety of healthy foods area available year round.	FAO	
		Certified zero hunger restaurants thought out the state of Grenada. Food preparation demonstrations are introduced to support the beneficiary families.	FAO/WFP/ PAHO O	GBS/NAZHCI
	<b>Product 1.3</b> Nutrition-related actions by policy makers, food	Complete the field testing and development of the guidelines.	FAO/WFP/PAHO	GFNC

	manufacturer and consumers are aligned to the national food based dietary guidelines (FBDG), with 90% of the nutrition programmes across the country utilizing the FBDG	Launch the guidelines to ensure all stakeholders are aware of it.	FAO/WFP/PAHO	GFNC
		Conduct training to various publics to ensure appropriate use of the guidelines.	FAO/WFP/PAHO	GFNC
	<b>Product 2.4</b> School meals programme expanded to ensure a 90 % student coverage in the state of Grenada	Dissemination of best practices.	FAO/WFP/PAHO	MOE/NZHCI
		Facilitation of access to a full time nutritionist.	FAO/WFP/PAHO	NZHCI
		Supporting the expansion of the operations of the programme.	FAO/WFP/PAHO	NZHCI
	<b>Product 2.5</b> School children are consuming healthy school meals and are making more healthy dietary choices away from school, with 100% of school meals conforming to the national dietary guidelines and 75% of students improving their overall consumption.	Dietary evaluation of the school feeding programme.	FAO/WFP/PAHO	GFNC
		Implement recommendations for improvement.	FAO/WFP/PAHO	NZHCI
		Promote, protect and maintain the health status of all venerable students and other personnel within the school system.	FAO/WFP/PAHO	NZHCI
		Include nutrition education and sessions in accordance with Ministry of Education and Principals' schedule.	FAO/WFP/PAHO	NZHCI

	<b>Product 2.6</b> Reduce the contribution of obesity. Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and HIV to families' economic vulnerability, with the rate of increase in obesity and NCDs , HIV morbidity reduced by 75%			
		More community based sessions by the MOH on screening and treatment compliance with these conditions	PAHO	MOH
		Intensify training using the algorithms for nutritional management of HIV, obesity, diabetes, hypertension, among others.	PAHO	MOH
		Public workers health and wellness project.	FAO/WFP/PAHO	MOH/NZHCI
		Community based exercise, health and wellness education project.	FAO/WFP/PAHO	MOH/NZHCI
	<b>Product 2.7</b> An objective warning and evaluation/monitoring of food security vulnerability established for decision making, with nutrient cost analysis applied nationally and by parish.	Collection of a cost list of commonly used food items from various local vendors and markets across parishes.	ICA	MALFFE
		Using a computer model generate the lowest cost of a 2400 calorie balanced diet, and also for a family of five.	IICA	MALFFE
		Relate that cost to the current minimum wage as an estimate of vulnerability.	ILO/IICA	MALFFE
		Use the model also as a promotional tool for healthy eating at low cost.	IICA	MALFFE

Priority areas of action	Outputs (O)	Activities (EO)	Support agency	Government focal point
<b>Outcome 3</b>  <b>All persons experiencing hunger and food insecurity and malnutrition are included in an efficient Social Protection System</b>	<b>Product 3.1</b>  An improved beneficiary-targeting system for all social programs is established and an evaluation and monitoring system for poverty and food security vulnerability is established.	Implement recommendation of the conducted studies and analysis on hunger , food and nutritional insecure population and malnutrition	FAO/WFP/PAHO	MOSD
		Establish a Central Registry of Beneficiaries for all social programs and appropriate information and targeting systems	FAO/WFP/PAHO	MOSD
		Establish a system to monitor and evaluate all social programs	FAO/WFP/PAHO	MOSD
	<b>Product 3.2</b>  The Government's capacity to manage and monitor social programs is improved	Consolidation of the National Authority for the Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative	FAO/WFP/PAHO	NZHCI
		Establishment of consistent targeting and payment mechanisms for all social programs	ILO/FAO/WFP/PAHO	MOSD

Priority areas of action	Outputs (O)	Activities (EO)	Support agency	Government focal point
<b>Outcome 4</b>  <b>Expansion of pro-poor employment and income generating opportunities</b>	Product 4.1	Expansion of the support programmes for small farmers– especially in the area of microfinance-and promotion of entrepreneurship.	FAO/WFP  PAHO	MOSD/MOF
	Improvements in rural livelihoods and in rural income generating opportunities	Establish links between small farmers and tourism activities	FAO/WFP  PAHO	NZHCI
	<b>Product 4.2</b>	In collaboration with the private sector, expanding apprenticeship and other welfare-to-work programmes to equip relevant groups with the necessary skills in preparation for entry in the work force.	FAO/WFP  PAHO	
	Developing active labour market policies	Promote human capital development among poor and vulnerable groups through the widening of the scope and reach of vocational training programmes, adult learning certification programmes, and continuous learning programmes	FAO	MLFFE
		Developing and implementing appropriate mechanisms and programmes for transition and absorption of displaced workers, especially in rural areas.	ILO/ FAO	

Priority areas of action	Outputs (O)	Activities (EO)	Support agency	Government focal point
<b>Outcome 5</b> Political commitment, governance and policy management are enhanced	<b>Product 5.1</b> Hunger, food security and malnutrition issues are prioritized in the political agenda	Established representative and accountable form of government in the state of Grenada. (established zero hunger stockholders committee in the parishes and villages to guarantee consensus building)	FAO WFP	NZHCI
		Recognized that poverty , social exclusion and a lack of participation in political – making processes are the main cause of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition	FAO	NZHCI
		Institutional mechanism established to ensure effective integration, coordination and collaboration among the diverse actions and institutions involved in the process.	FAO	NZHCI
		Identifying parliamentarians and civil society actors willing to advance food and nutrition security issues in the legislative agenda and generating opportunities for a regional dialogue	FAO	NZHCI
		Improving capacities of political and technical actors on right to food , health and governance issues	FAO	NZHCI
		Ensuring gender sensitization training for officers in agricultural and hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition programmes	FAO	NZHCI
		Providing learning and exchange opportunities on public policy development and implementation in food and nutrition security-related areas that form part of the Plan of Action (social protection, school feeding, nutrition, etc.)	FAO	NZHCI
		Policy and monitoring integration of gender equality into the project activities and results	FAO	NZHCI
		Monitoring, reporting and evaluating the Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative (ZHCI) project activities and results.	FAO	NZHCI
		Promoting constitutional reform ensuring that the right to food and health and wellness are right base.	FAO	NZHCI



**Table 3: SUMMARY OF MAIN PROJECTS WITH COSTING OF THE GRENEA ZERO HUNGER CHALLENGE INITIATIVE PROJECT**

<b>Pillars of the Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative</b>	<b>Main projects / Concept Notes</b>	<b>TOTAL COST (USD\$)</b>
Growth and wealth creation	1. Value chain development and diversification of the Grenadian 2. Strengthening farmers organizations for improved cooperation and collaboration in production and marketing of produce 3. Increase small ruminant production Value chain development and diversification of the Grenadian agriculture 4. Plant Propagation <b>Sub total</b>	2,000,000.00 550,000.00 1,500,000.00 1,000,000.00 <b>5,050,000.00</b>
Expansion of pro-poor employment and income generating opportunities	5. Boosting domestic food supply and employment opportunities 6. Linking vulnerable family/small scale farmers to markets <b>Sub total</b>	1,200,000.00 550,000.00 <b>1,750,000.00</b>
Modernization of social protection system and increasing resilience of the poor	7. Combating Praedial Larceny in support of food and nutrition security in Grenada 8. Strengthening the disaster risk management and resilience building systems and mechanisms to natural disasters and socio-economic shocks 9. Poverty and Risk Reduction in the Fishing Community <b>Sub total</b>	600,000.00 370,000.00 78,000.00 <b>1,048,000.00</b>
Improvement in the nutrition and health status of the population	10. Enhancing the nutrition and health status of the people of Grenada 11. Strengthening the school meals program for better learning and improved lifelong food choices 12. Enhancing Community Health and Wellness in Grenada 13. Supplemental food for families project (SFFP) <b>Sub total</b>	1,650,000.00 855,000.00 95,000.00 360,000.00 <b>2,960,000.00</b>
Good governance and public sector management	14. Increase good governance and management of institutional mechanisms to eradicate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition in the state of Grenada	<b>500,000.00</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>11,308,000.00</b>

## Annex 2

### SUMMARY OF MAIN PROJECTS WITH COSTING OF THE GRENADA ZERO HUNGER CHALLENGE INITIATIVE PROJECT

#### 1. Value Chain Development and Diversification of Grenadian Agriculture

##### *Introduction:*

Availability and access to sufficient, healthy and nutritious food have been key challenges in Grenada, not unlike other Caribbean nations. Although at the national level, Grenada produces enough calories/output per day and major macronutrients per capita, significant transitory food and nutrition insecurity exist at the household level and among vulnerable groups. Recent analysis of the food availability within the various food groups showed a heavy reliance on non-nutritious and nutrient-poor quality imported products.

There are many who have raised concerns as to the reasons for countries, like Grenada, are not taking advantage of what they call “the golden opportunities” to produce and make more accessible, more food domestically and reduce the vastly high annual food import bill. Less than 50%<sup>4</sup> of the available arable land is currently cultivated. About 15% of domestic agricultural production is for export. Notwithstanding this, Grenada remains dependent on imports, as 70%<sup>5</sup> of food consumed in the country is imported.

##### *Strategic context and rationale for Grenada*

At the highest level fora of Heads and Ministers of Governments in the organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) over the past years, it was agreed that the Agricultural and Food sector must become one of the main pillars of economic and social transformation. Governments have repeatedly called for the development of new agricultural value chains that can support domestic food supply and poverty reduction. However, the development of the agricultural sector would have to be pursued with a new thrust that recognizes the importance of climate smart agriculture and market development through value added processing and where feasible export trade as drivers for the development of the sector. It was also recognized that the structural weaknesses and other challenges facing the sector would have to be addressed if the sector was to perform this important role.

The recently formulated Grenada Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy 2014-2018 indicates “new Agriculture and Agribusiness” is one of its key strategic objectives to leverage sustainable economic growth and economic expansion.

<sup>4</sup> FNS Policy and Action Plan 2013-2018 of Grenada

<sup>5</sup> FNS Policy and Action Plan 2013-2018 of Grenada

Grenada is one of the 11 countries from the CARICOM region that has completed and endorsed the Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) Policy and Action Plan (2013-2018). The policy decision to launch the Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative translates into action the commitment of Grenada to implement some of the major priority actions to eliminate hunger over the next five years (2014-2019). “Economic Expansion and Diversification of the Agricultural Sector” is one of the five (5) pillars of this Zero Hunger Challenge document. Furthermore, both a Ministerial Council and a National Authority and Implementation Committee for Zero Hunger Challenge have been established to facilitate decision making and good governance.

### ***Description of the project /initiative:***

Five value chains have been identified and are prioritized for development: 1) Soursop (*Annona Sp.*), 2) root crops with the main focus on cassava, 3) banana 4) vegetables and Fruits and 5) small ruminants and poultry. Some of these value chains will be developed using a backyard and school garden strategy.

*General objective:* To contribute to the expansion and diversification of the agricultural sector for a more efficient, food and nutrition food-security, sensitive-food and agricultural system in Grenada.

### ***Expected results:***

- Ensured sustainable development of the domestic food system, including reduction in losses within the food production system
- Increased pro-poor employment and income generating opportunities
- A 50-100 per cent increase in smallholder production, productivity and income
- Increased capacities for the production and consumption of healthy foods for targeted groups using urban and peri-urban production techniques in backyard, and school gardens as well as on small farms.

### ***Expected outputs:***

- Public policy, including trade and cross-border investment agreements and policies, institutional and organizational developments that create an enabling environment for investment, production and trade. The deliverables will include (a) public policy proposals that serve as an incentive to develop the selected value chains; (b) investment profiles and enterprise development models at all levels of the value chain; and (c) food quality and standards program established to meet market requirements.
- Technology, innovation and best practices developed to support increased productivity at all levels of the value chain. The deliverables will include (a) demonstration and documentation of best practices and plans of action for their adoption and implementation; (b) strengthening of producer, processor and user organizations and experience sharing at all levels of the value chain
- Promotion of the utilization of local products for the commodities of focus at intermediate and final consumer levels. The deliverables under this area will be (a) promotional campaigns for the use of local products (b) training to reduce waste and minimize losses along the value chain (c) improved food quality and safety systems
- Support for the improved function of inclusive national markets and increasing domestic, regional and extra-regional trade. The deliverables under this area will be (a) increased knowledge of the market structure and 4 value chains mapped and defined; (b) increased capacity to participate in intra and extra-regional trade (OECS and the CARICOM markets) in the value chain products.

**Organization:**

*The Ministry of Agriculture will be the government's lead agency for the project, in coordination with The National Authority for the Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative and the implementation committee.*

**Cost and financing:**

*This project is expected to be implemented over a period of three years with a budget of approximately 2,000,000 USD.*

## **2. Strengthening Farmers Organizations for Improved Cooperation and Collaboration in Production and Marketing of Produce**

**Introduction:**

This project has been developed and is justified by the need to find an immediate amicable solution to improve the effectiveness and impact of the use of diminishing government resources that is expending to assist the farming community, and to reduce distortions in the production and marketing of local farm produce. It is envisaged that through improved cooperation and collaboration of farmers in the areas of input sourcing, production scheduling and marketing through the establishment and strengthening of farm organisations (groups) these most urgent issues can be redressed.

The economic viability of small developing economies, like Grenada, is intricately linked to a strong, lucrative and sustainable farming community. The viability of most institutions is often realised through the collective, as opposed to the individual. Intentionally or unintentionally, an individualistic culture has emerged within the farming community; a culture one believes is significantly and adversely affecting the viability of the farming community by failing to take a much needed economies of scale in the sector.

**Strategic context and rationale for Grenada:**

A recent study (2014) conducted by Oxfam shows that the richest 1% of the world population owns 48% of the world's resources, and by 2020, this group will own approximately 54% of global resources. The livelihood of the poor is under great threat like no other time. Bearing in mind that the poor are often small scale producers of raw materials and food and accounts for upwards of 70 % of the population in most developing countries, it must be seen as a national priority to address their subsistence needs.

Strategically, this project will help shape the development of Grenada. Supporting marketing surveys show that sustainable markets exist for local agriculture produce. However, the individualist approach of the farming community is impeding its reach to markets. The resulting problems of high prices, quality and inconsistent supplies can be reduced through the creation and strengthening of farmers' organization. Reduction of these negatives improves the marketability of local produce and consequently the probability of increased earnings for producers.

Over the past 5 years one of the most impacting programs on agriculture production has been the government-led farm labour project. This project has been curtailed significantly due to limited resources and competing use of state funds. Strengthening farmers' organizations is seen as critical to maintaining high farm productivity as these groups will find creative ways to assist members.

### ***Description of the project/initiative:***

*General objective:* To facilitate the creation of an enabling environment for improved cooperation and collaboration among farmers through the establishment of effective and strategically located farmers' organization.

#### *Expected results*

- Establishment of a farmers' organization in each district.
- Improved earnings and livelihood of farmers.
- Increased product and market development for and by local farm produce

#### *Expected outputs*

- Completion of needs assessment of existing and emerging farmers' organizations.
- Prepared training manuals to facilitate training activities.
- Established and functional desk to provide institutional support for farmer's organization and assist with resource mobilization.
- Established and functional marketing facilities (2) strategically located to support increased production, consolidation, storage and marketing of farmers produce.

#### *Activities*

- Establishment and strengthening of farm organizations.
- Institutional support (group dynamics training).
- Training in farm input supplies and logistics management.
- Training in production scheduling with emphasis on increase productivity, crop specialization and market trend analysis.
- Training in marketing that targets niche marketing customer relationship management, value creation and market development.
- Establish two (2) marketing facilities for consolidation of produce, packing and grading, storage and marketing.

### ***Organization:***

The project will be managed under the Government of Grenada's Zero Hunger Initiative, under the overall responsibility of the Government established Zero Hunger Authority. The project will be implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture. At the conclusion of the project, the Ministry envisages the establishment of umbrella farmers' organization in every parish in Grenada, improved cooperation and collaboration among farmers in the areas of sourcing farm inputs, production synchronization and

marketing through training in group dynamics, and improved effectiveness and impact of extension services to the farming community.

***Cost and financing***

The Government is seeking an estimated US \$550,000, implemented over five (5) years.

### 3. The Grenada Small Ruminant Industry Development Plan

#### ***Introduction:***

Small ruminant production is an important socio-economic activity among small and landless farmers in Grenada. These animals, mainly goats, sheep and rabbits are used as a source of protein and a significant income earned by those small farmers. The contribution of the small ruminant sub-sector to poverty alleviation, rural development, and agricultural diversification is well recognized by society and government in national development.

#### ***Strategic context and rationale for Grenada:***

The small ruminant sub-sector, like many other sub-sectors, requires well-articulated and deliberate poverty reduction oriented policy guidelines. At present, there are development plans intended to promote the industry in several ways. However, that intended development has been impeded by the inadequacy of those policies, marketing issues constraints, financial constraints and shortages of quality genetic pool or foundation stock. Poor and illegal land tenure practices, praedial larceny, dog predation and gaps in farmer education and training need strategic attention in order to enhance the sub-sector's performance. The small ruminant sub-sector has the potential for substantial import substitution and improvements in small farmer income.

The recently formulated Grenada Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy 2014-2018 indicates that while the "...new Agriculture and Agribusiness" has to be one of the key strategic objectives to leverage sustainable economic growth and economic expansion, the role of the small farmer cannot be replaced by the commercial farmer. Small ruminants farmers are strategic gap-fillers, in this regard.

Grenada is one of the eleven (11) countries from the CARICOM region that has completed and endorsed the Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) Policy and Action Plan (2013-2018). The policy decision to launch the Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative and to include the small ruminant sub-sector as a driving force translates, into action, the commitment of Grenada to implement its major priority actions to eliminate hunger over the next five years (2014-2019). The implementation of the Zero Hunger Initiative as it incorporates the small ruminant sub-sector, will grow in its diversity and inclusiveness of hitherto marginalized rural population segments such as poorly-resourced farmers, rural women and rural youth.

#### ***Description of the project/initiative:***

*General objective:* To expand the small ruminant sub-sector as a basis for increased food security, enhanced farm incomes and improved social well-being of challenged rural population segments and to take advantage of possible market opportunities in the domestic and regional market.

#### ***EXPECTED RESULTS***

- Increased pro-poor employment and income generating opportunities.
- A 50-100 per cent increase in smallholder production

- Increased capacities for the production and consumption of healthy meat, milk and cheese for targeted groups using urban and peri-urban production techniques in backyards, and school gardens as well as on small farms.

#### *Expected outputs*

- Production of mutton, rabbit and goat meat to increase by approximately 15 % and 30 % by year five.
- Improved technical and managerial skill among farmers and other industry stakeholders through training.
- Establishment of a communication and information system to enhance the decision-making process for production, processing and marketing
- Increased participation of stakeholders, especially women and youth, in the entire industry value chain and
- Increased use technology and innovation and best practices in the industry.

#### *Activities:*

- Improve breeds and breeding programs, including the use of artificial insemination, to make high quality genetic stock available to farmers.
- Conduct training to improve the technical capacities and managerial skills among farmers and extension officers.
- Improve the nutrition regime through the establishment of better pastures and forage banks
- Improve the health and sanitation management practices.
- Improve the processing and marketing of products.
- Strengthen the value addition activities related to the products such as milk, cheese, leather, wool and manure.

#### ***Organization:***

The Project will be managed under the Government of Grenada Zero Hunger Initiative, under the overall responsibility of the Government established Zero Hunger Authority. The project will be implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture, with support from relevant Government institutions.

#### ***Cost and financing:***

The project is expected to run over a three- year period costing approximately U.S. \$1.5 million.



## 4. Plant Propagation

### ***Introduction:***

The passage of hurricane Ivan has devastated 90% of the tree crops on the island of Grenada. Nutmegs, fruits, minor spices, forest species, cocoa, ornamentals, coconuts, bananas, and coastal species have all been affected. In fact, it is estimated that more than 20,000 acres of plants have been completely destroyed and will have to be replanted. The replanting however is an opportunity to restructure the agricultural sector by examining the possibility of introducing new commodities with greater economic returns. As a consequence of the above, there must be sufficiently good quality planting materials of the types specifically chosen for the requirements of the markets. Selecting high quality planting materials is also important because trees are such long term investment that only the best quality planting material should be planted. At present, the Government propagating stations cannot produce the required planting materials necessary for the intensive replanting programme. Importation of plantlets is not viable for the fear of introducing exotic diseases and pests to the already fragile ecosystems.

### ***Strategic context and rationale for Grenada:***

Plant propagation is an important sub sector in the development of a country's agricultural sector. Since the 1990s government has embarked on a diversification program, key to the program success has been the government's ability to provide healthy planting materials over the years. However, in recent time's production of planting materials has become a challenge for the Ministry of Agriculture due to a number of issues.

The propagation stations have not been able to evolve with time due to the cost of modern technology and limited human resource development.

Government's renewed diversification program and interest in introducing new economic crops to the sector has increase the need for a modern facility with the capacity to produce healthy planting materials.

### ***Description of the project/initiative:***

In response to governments' policy to the development of the agricultural sector this project would attempt to satisfy the need for planting materials. A number of crops have been identified as priority.

*General objective:* To construct modern propagation stations equipped to meet the rising demands for healthy planting materials.

### ***Expected results***

- Assist the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry; Fisheries, Lands and the Environment implement its agricultural diversification policy.

- Increase its production of healthy planting materials available for support of the diversification program.

*Expected outputs*

- On completion of the project, expected production of planting materials to increase significantly
- Improved technical and operational skills on the propagation station
- Reduction in importation of planting materials and increase exports of planting materials.

***Organization:***

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Lands, and the Environment would be the lead agency.

***Cost and financing:***

The project is expected to be implemented over a one year period costing approximately 1 million USD. dollars.

## 5. Boosting Domestic Food Supply and Employment Opportunities

### ***Introduction:***

Availability and access to sufficient, healthy and nutritious food have been key challenges in Grenada, like other Caribbean states. Although at the national level, Grenada produces enough calories/output per day and major macronutrients, significant transitory food and nutrition insecurity exist at the household level and among vulnerable groups. Recent analysis of the food availability spectrum within the various food groups showed a heavy reliance on non-nutritious and poor quality imported products.

There are many of those who have raised concerns on why countries like Grenada are not taking advantage of what they call “the golden opportunities” to produce and make accessible more food domestically to reduce the vastly high and increasing annual food import bill. The increasing dependence on food imports is expanding in an environment in which less than 50%<sup>6</sup> of the available arable land is currently cultivated and about 15% of domestic agricultural production is for export. Grenada remains dependent on imports, as 70%<sup>7</sup> of food consumed in the country is imported.

One of the key factors that explain this situation is the fact that young people are not sufficiently involved in the agricultural sector and related industries. This has translated into fewer agricultural producers and processors and less opportunity for employment and diversification of income generating avenues for a group that has been considered to be very vulnerable. While the current overall employment rate of Grenada has fallen to 33.5%<sup>8</sup>, the unemployment rate among the youth remains unacceptably high. Youth unemployment stood at 55.6% in the latter part of 2014.

### ***Strategic context and rationale for Grenada:***

This project has great importance for the people and government of Grenada. It addresses the root cause of hunger and poverty. It translates the important role of youth in boosting the agriculture and related industries as a means to increase food supply in the domestic market, to ensure greater quality and affordable food in sufficient quantities and, at the same time, promote decent and productive employment.

Grenada is one of the 11 countries from the CARICOM that has completed and endorsed a Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) Policy and Action Plan (2013-2018). One of the major steps in implementing this policy and action is translated by the policy decision of Grenada to launch the Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative for eliminating hunger over the next five years (2015-2019). Furthermore, the recently formulated Grenada Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy 2014-2018 indicates zero hunger challenge as one of its key areas and the participation of youth development as organically essential to the attainment of national growth. A Ministerial council, a National Authority and Implementation Committee have been established to facilitate decision-making and good governance of this initiative.

### ***Description of the Project / Initiative:***

<sup>6</sup> FNS Policy and Action Plan 2013-2018 of Grenada

<sup>7</sup> FNS Policy and Action Plan 2013-2018 of Grenada

The project will contribute to a common youth employment strategy shared by selected government's agencies and partners that will benefit many thousands unemployed young people throughout the country. Entrepreneurial skills of youth in the agriculture and the food value chain will be improved, and awareness of decent rural employment opportunities will be promoted.

**General objective:** To promote adequate domestic food supply and youth employment opportunities for food and nutrition security

***Expected results:***

- Ensured sustainable development of the domestic food system
- Increased pro-poor employment and income generating opportunities.
- A 50-100 per cent increase in smallholder production, productivity and income

***Expected outputs:***

- Evidence based policy support and capacity development in the formulation and implementation of policies, action plans and programs that generate decent rural youth employment in the agriculture and related industries. This includes the alignment of National Sports policy with the proposed policy on food and nutrition in the area of national programmes for physical activity
- Organizational and institutional capacities of public and private institutions, organizations and network are strengthened to support pro-poor employment opportunities and youth involvement in the agriculture and related industries
- Increased awareness of young people and supporting stakeholders about decent employment opportunities for youth in the agricultural sector and, generally, through the food value chain and related industries
- Improving technical capacities for rural youth employment opportunities in agriculture and related industries
- Improving managerial capacities, knowledge and leadership to access rural youth employment opportunities
- Support scaled-up innovations and best practices through the development of innovative business, plans and models on agriculture, value chain development and related industries

## **Organization**

*The National Authority for the Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative and the implementation committee will be the government's lead agency for the project, in coordination with other governmental intuitions such as the Ministry of Agriculture and the non-governmental organizations involved in youth development and employment.*

## **Cost and Financing**

*It is expected to run this project over a period of four years for a budget of approximately 1.2 million USD.*

### ***Introduction:***

This document presents the main elements of a project that is aimed at the provision of critical support to the development of the fruits, vegetables, and roots and tubers value-chains in Grenada by linking of vulnerable family/small scale producers to markets. The project is being presented within the context of the need to respond to challenges of low domestic food availability, lack of access to adequate food by vulnerable groups as a result of low income obtained from existing activities and high dependency on food imports facing the country and poor food and dietary choices.

The project represents a continuation of Grenada's aggressive thrust to revitalization the food and agriculture sectors in support of:

- Increased levels of income of family/small scale producers.
- Increased production and productivity in the food and agriculture sector, especially among family/small scale producers – inclusion
- Reduction in the absolute number of Grenadians, especially those school aged, the elderly and women headed households suffering from hunger, food insecurity, and malnutrition – food security
- Sustainable and stable utilization of resources – risk management, stewardship

The primary beneficiaries will be family/small scale farmers and all the inhabitants of Grenada, since they will benefit significantly from increased small-scale crop production, and healthy and nutritious meals served in the schools, public institutions, hotels and households. In particular, women, youth and the poor and vulnerable small scale producers will be targeted because they are the most adversely affected by malnutrition.

The project is expected to increase the volumes of domestically produced fruits, vegetables and roots and tubers that are supplied to markets and used for the preparation of nutritious meals in the country. The project is also expected to contribute to enhanced resilience of the food and agriculture sector and increased food and nutrition and livelihoods security among family farmers and farmer's groups.

### ***Strategic Context and rationale for Grenada:***

Grenada, like most of the countries of the Caribbean, is faced by a number of economic and social problems potentially eroding the economy and high standard of living of its people. Traditional agriculture which was the mainstay of the economy has lost ground due to local, regional and international forces. Nevertheless, agriculture remains one of the major contributors to economic growth and development, foreign exchange savings/earnings and employment in the country. There is growing recognition within the food and agriculture community of the need for smallholder producers to shift traditional farming strategies to those of more innovative farming leading to better farm incomes. One such innovative approach relates to the establishment of linkages between farmers, producers and markets. This approach, to be effective, calls for priority attention to issues on access to technology and information, institutional arrangements and support services, policies, capacity building of producers, and identification and development of markets, among others. A holistic approach is therefore needed for improving such linkages, particularly of the smallholder farmers in Grenada to markets to provide them better livelihood.

The project will focus on addressing the problems of low production and productivity of selected agricultural crops among small family farmers, limited linkages to markets and poor access to and consumption of locally produced, nutritious food especially by vulnerable groups. By so doing, the project is expected to contribute to a reduction in the importation of imported foods of low quality, improve the nutritional content of the diets of the population, especially those of school age, the elderly and women headed households, and enhance the incomes and livelihoods of rural communities who produce the food.

The objectives of the project are to increase production of selected agricultural crops geared towards the supply of the domestic market including school feeding, correctional facilities, households and the tourist industry and enhanced resilience of the agriculture sector, thus increasing the sustainable attainment of food and livelihoods security.

### ***Description of the project:***

*General Objective:* To increase food and nutrition and livelihoods security among families, family farmers and farmer's groups by linking them to markets.

### ***Expected Outputs***

- Business models for linking family farms and farmers groups to government food procurement schemes (schools and institutions) and hotels are developed, tested and implemented.
- Increased volumes of marketable food produced by family farms, small farmers groups and school gardens.
- Improved nutritional quality of meals served by the school feeding program government run institutions and selected hotels, utilizing locally produced foods.

### ***Outputs and Activities***

#### **1: Business models for linking family farms and farmers groups to government food procurement schemes (schools and institutions) and hotels are developed, tested and implemented.**

- Undertake a market / demand analysis
- Establish institutional mechanism for coordination, dialogue and information and knowledge sharing among stakeholders
- Support the development and implementation of public (schools and government institutions) and private purchasing contracts for the marketing of family farmers/farmer's groups produce.
- Support the development of the Government public purchasing policy for the purchase of locally produced foods from family farmers/farmer's groups/school gardens.
- Support the development and implementation of production and marketing schedules.
- Support the strengthening of market oriented value added infrastructure to facilitate the consolidation, grading, packaging and distribution of produce from family farms and farmers' groups.
- Conduct training and introduce basic farm management tools and record keeping for profit calculations
- Conduct training workshops for producers in understanding marketing information and good marketing practices
- Establish mechanisms/systems for the monitoring of progress and the sharing of lessons learnt.

#### **2: Increased volumes of marketable food produced by family farms, small farmers groups and school gardens.**

- Select family farmers, farmers' groups, schools gardeners, and public institutions and hotels that will participate in the project
- Conduct sensitization workshops to introduce project participants to the project.
- Validate appropriate technology packages and make available to producers
- Establishment of pilots on family/small scale farms.
- Conduct Training workshops for family farmers, farmers' groups, and school gardeners, utilizing the technology packages as the base and introducing good agricultural practices.
- Conduct training workshops in Post-harvest handling of produce.
- Support the implementation of technology packages for targeted crops.

**3: Improved nutritional quality of meals served by the school feeding program government run institutions and selected hotels, utilizing locally produced foods.**

- Support the establishment of a project nutrition committee for ensuring the provision and promotion of healthy and nutritious meals based on locally produced foods,
- Conduct nutrition education training workshops for capacity building of stakeholders involved in provision of healthy and nutritious meals based on locally produced foods, utilizing the Food Based Dietary Guidelines of Grenada.
- Facilitate kitchen equipment purchase for the preparation and delivery of meals at schools.
- Facilitate wide dissemination of project results and the promotion activities through newspaper, radio and TV adds.

***Organization:***

The Project will be managed under the Government of Grenada Zero Hunger Initiative, under the overall responsibility of the Government established Zero Hunger Authority. The project will be implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture, with support from relevant institutions such as the Ministry of Education, the Nutrition Centre and NGOs.

***Cost and financing:***

The estimated cost of the project over the five year implementation period is put at US \$0.55 million.

## **7. Combating Praedial Larceny in Support of Food and Nutrition Security in Grenada**

### ***INTRODUCTION:***

The vision underpinning Grenada's Food and Nutrition Security Policy is to fully recognize each citizen's right to food and to ensure that all persons at all times, have physical, economic, and social access to safe, nutritious, culturally acceptable, and affordable food in sufficient quantities to meet their needs for an active and healthy life. Hence, the Ministry of Agriculture, Land, Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment has taken a deliberate policy decision to launch and implement a Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative (ZHCI). Institutionalizing the rules of good governance would be evident in greater transparency and accountability in the delivery of public services. This is an important mechanism to reduce hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition in the state of Grenada.

### ***STRATEGIC CONTEXT AND RATIONALE FOR GRENADA:***

The present economic situation in Grenada is extremely difficult. A review of secondary data sources was conducted as a first step towards identifying vulnerable livelihoods in Grenada.

The 2008 CPA reported that nationally 2.4% of the population were (food poor), 37.7% were absolutely poor (i.e., could not meet both their food and non-food needs), and 14.6% were vulnerable (i.e., were not poor or indigent at the time the assessment was conducted, but were at risk of falling below the poverty threshold should an unanticipated event such as a natural disaster or economic shock were to occur). In effect, 52.3% of the population was at risk of being vulnerable, poor or indigent. In this report the population at risk is used as a proxy of vulnerability to food insecurity. Praedial Larceny poses a serious threat to food security by discouraging farmers from producing at levels that would guarantee the availability of reliable food supplies.

The government's policy response has been to craft a national poverty reduction strategy, within the context of a broader National Economic and Social Transformation plan, 2014 -2018 as well as to implement a food and nutrition security action plan 2013 -2018, with the core policy elements being:

- Growth and wealth creation;
- Expansion of pro-poor employment and income generating opportunities;
- Modernization of social protection system and increasing resilience of the poor;
- Improvement in the nutrition and health status of the population; Good governance and public sector management; and Building of resilience through environmental sustainability.
- 

In order to achieve the intended outcomes from government's policy initiatives, Praedial Larceny among other challenges, must be given due focus and attention.

### ***DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT/INITIATIVE:***

*General objective:* The purpose of this initiative is to strengthen national capacities and capabilities for the management of praedial larceny in an effort to significantly reduce its incidence, thereby minimizing its threats to national food and nutrition security.



### *Specific objectives*

- To improve the collection, management and disseminate of farm data in order to support surveillance and enforcement.
- To improve efficiencies in surveillance and enforcement of the law.
- To improve public knowledge and awareness of the extent, severity and economic and social impacts of Praedial Larceny.
- To strengthening administration and management of the Praedial Larceny Control Program.

### *Expected outputs and activities*

- Strengthened legislative frameworks for enforcement and stiffer penalties.
- A special Praedial Larceny Court.
- Develop and implement a regime of compensation for victims of praedial larceny.
- A more robust and committed Praedial Larceny Task Force.
- A functional and efficiently operated Praedial Larceny Management Unit linked to the Police Force.
- A praedial larceny hotline.
- Functional Community Watch Groups.
- A reliable and up to date Farm Information System for effective traceability.
- Data collection and monitoring tools for risk analysis developed and implemented.
- Public education and communication strategies to empower and build resilience in farmers and fisher folks in praedial larceny prevention developed and implemented.
- A network of farm surveillance systems.
- Information systems that provide clarity in the relationships in the legitimate higgler/huckster business trade, to include the use of Farmer Registration ID and vouchers developed and implemented.
- New technologies of traceability, DNA and Drones evaluated and implemented, if deemed appropriate.

### **ORGANIZATION:**

*The National Authority for the Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative and the implementation committee will be government's lead agency for the project implementation.*

### **COST AND FINANCING:**

*This project is expected to be implemented over a period of five years with a budget of approximately 600,000 USD.*

## **8. Strengthening the Disaster Risk Management and Resilience Building Systems and Mechanisms to Natural Disasters and Socio-Economic Shocks**

### ***Introduction:***

This document presents the main elements of a project aimed at strengthening the disaster risk management and resilience systems and mechanisms in Grenada in order to better to address the fundamental risk management issues faced by the country. These risk management issues are all related to the high exposure to risks and limited resilience capacity of the country and characterized by:

- Increased frequency and intensity of natural disasters and the impact of climate change.
- Economic and financial shocks, exacerbated by the openness of their economies.
- High levels of praedial larceny.
- High levels of pest and diseases and the ever-growing threats from invasive species.
- Inadequate land and water management systems

### ***Strategic context and rationale for Grenada:***

Threats to the Grenada's environmental and natural resources, is a major development concern. The country is unique from the perspective that it is a Small Island Developing State (SID) with low lying coastal areas, and is situated in the Caribbean, which is considered the second most prone region in the world to a range of natural hazards. Disaster losses are rising due to increased risk, a product of the rise in incidence and strength of hazards and the growing vulnerability of human settlements concentrated in high risk areas where the risk is further exacerbated by inappropriate and unsuitable social, economic and environmental practices. The passage of Hurricane Ivan in 2004, which devastated Grenada, is a powerful reminder of the impact that natural disasters can have on countries that are highly vulnerable. The projected changes in climate are already being observed in the increasing frequency and severity of extreme weather events experienced. It is important to point out that hazards do not necessarily have to become disasters. It is the combination of an exposed, vulnerable and ill-prepared food and agriculture sector with a hazard event that results in a disaster. Vulnerability in its various forms is a development deficit. National sustainable agricultural development planning must break the cycle of vulnerability.

These factors have contributed to the daunting task of transforming the food and agriculture sector of Grenada into a vibrant, market-oriented, internationally competitive sector in which stakeholders contribute to and derive the benefits from the trade while achieving high levels of food and nutrition security in a sustainable and environmentally friendly manner. However, the context presents a unique, pivotal and defining moment for development of the food and agriculture and also for the eradication of hunger and malnutrition in Grenada.

Some social and economic crises (such as high food prices and loss of income related to the current global financial and economic challenges) have also impacted the population of Grenada.

The need to strengthen the disaster risk management and resilience systems and mechanisms in Grenada in order to better to address the fundamental risk management issues faced by the country is obvious.

It is against this background that this project is presented for funding under the Government of Grenada Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative.

### ***Description of the project:***

*General Objective:* To improve the food and nutrition security resilience of the national community to natural and socio-economic shocks and climate change

*Expected Outputs:*

- Improved mitigation, prevention and preparedness for the agricultural sector to economic shocks and natural disasters and hazards, including pests and diseases.
- Reduced detrimental impact of climate change and climate variability on food production and livelihoods
- Improved national capacities to identify and target food insecure households, including the establishment of a National Information Early Warning Systems (NIEWS).
- Mechanisms for an adequate supply of food in times of a national food shortage established.
- Improved land and water governance and management systems

*Organization:*

The Project will be managed under the Government of Grenada Zero Hunger Initiative, under the overall responsibility of the Government established Zero Hunger Authority. The project will be implemented by the Zero Hunger Committee, with support from the Ministry of Agriculture and MNIB

*Cost and financing:*

This project is expected to be implemented over a period of five years with a budget of approximately US \$1.85 million, of which government input is expected to be US \$370,000, mainly in kinds.

## 9. Poverty and Risk Reduction in Fishing Community

### ***Introduction:***

This document presents the broad elements of a project aimed at poverty and risk reduction in the fishing community of Gouyave, located in the parish of St. John, which lies on Grenada's west coast some 15 miles from the capital, St. George's. It is made up of some 16 – 18 small communities or villages with an overall population of approximately 11,272. The need for poverty and risk reduction in Gouyave have been identified by members of the fishing community, private sector, church and other organizations as been of critical importance, more so due to the impact of recent and current occurrences.

This project is designed to address three issues: awareness/education, skills training and incentives for social support.

### ***Strategic context and rationale for Grenada:***

The town of Gouyave with a population of 4,378 (2008) is well known and recognized as the fishing capital of Grenada. Agriculture, and to a lesser extent, services are the two other sectors contributing to the National Gross Domestic Product.

Fishing is the life blood, described by some as “*an essential part of the DNA of the community*”. Over 85% of households in the town of Gouyave depend directly or indirectly on the fishing industry for their livelihood. The industry is characterized by fisher folks who are Grenadian citizens, operating small and medium size businesses, with some 20 – 25 large to medium size fishing vessels and over 40 small outboard engine boats. A rough estimate suggests that more than 60% of boat owners are actually fishing themselves, while the other 40% or so have some type of partnership or unwritten agreement for compensation with mainly young fishermen.

The industry could be said to have recovered relatively well post Hurricane's Ivan 2004 and Emily 2005 largely due to assistance for retooling of boats, provision of supplies and training provided by Government and NGOs funded by UN agencies, US AID and CIDA among others. The role played by GRENCODA was pivotal during the recovery period.

However, the fishing industry in Gouyave experienced another setback in April 2011 when Grenada was impacted by torrential rainfall associated with a slow moving low level trough. The town of Gouyave experienced high level flooding from the impact. According to a report prepared by a team from the National Disaster Management Agency and the Ministry of Finance, Gouyave received within a limited span of 10 hours intense rainfall approximately four times the historic monthly average for April. Flooding in Gouyave was attributed in part to high water levels and bank overtopping in some channel sections along the little river. Among those directly impacted were fisher folks, who suffered damage to housing, fishing boats and equipment and general disruption of livelihood, overall the estimated damage was set at US\$750,000. Government of Grenada is negotiating a loan with Caribbean Development Bank for Natural Disaster Management Rehabilitation and Reconstruction, to undertake significant infrastructure work relating to reduction of risks associated with landslide and flood hazards. The loan was approved however delay relating to construction of retaining walls and rehabilitation work has been hampered by government cash flow challenges.

Since September 2011 there has been a significant reduction in fish catch in Gouyave – near shore and deep sea. Deep sea or long line fishers depend on the catch from near shore – net for bate. There has been a consistent depletion in catch which seem to have exacerbated since the flooding. While no significant

research has been conducted the observation has been made by fishermen who have years of experience in the industry.

It is against this background that this project is presented for funding under the Government of Grenada Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative.

***Description of the project:***

*General Objective:* To reduce poverty and risk in the fishing community of Gouyave.

*Expected Outputs:*

- Information provided to support persons in making informed choices in relation to use and management of natural resources.
- Opportunity provided to skills development and employment options
- Persons have basic tool to generate income and livelihood.

***Organization:***

The Project will be managed under the Government of Grenada Zero Hunger Initiative, under the overall responsibility of the Government established Zero Hunger Authority. The project will be implemented by Grenada Community Development Agency (GRENCODA) which has been in existence as a registered not for profit, non-governmental rural development agency since 1986.

***COST AND FINANCING:***

The estimated cost of the project over the year implementation period is put at US \$78,000.

## 10. Enhancing the Nutrition and Health Status of the People of Grenada

### ***Introduction:***

This document presents the broad elements of a project aimed at improving the health and nutritional status of Grenadians, with an emphasis on those suffering from malnutrition. It is anticipated that this will be achieved by promoting the consumption of good quality and affordable food in adequate quantities to meet nutritional requirements throughout the life cycle of all. The project proposal contains actions and activities aimed at:

- Increasing the access of vulnerable groups to nutrition, health care and social protection.
- Improving the dietary consumption of vulnerable families.
- Aligning nutrition-related actions by policy makers, food manufacturer and consumers to the national food based dietary guidelines (FBDG).
- Reducing the contribution of obesity, non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and HIV to families' economic vulnerability.
- Establishing an objective early warning and evaluation/ monitoring system of food security vulnerability for decision making.

### ***Strategic context and rationale for Grenada:***

The analysis of food utilization and nutritional adequacy in Grenada points to a shift in consumption patterns of Grenadians, from foods that are locally produced to imported foods that are generally high in salts, sugars and saturated fats. This, coupled with the change to a sedentary lifestyle has been purported as the cause of an increase in nutrition related non-communicable diseases, which are now impacting negatively not only the health of the population but also on the financial resources of the nation.

The present situation with respect to food utilization and nutritional adequacy suggests that Grenada must strive to overcome the several challenges faced by its people, including:

- Lack of or insufficient food in the households;
- Inadequate knowledge of nutritional requirements;
- Poor food preparation techniques;
- Changes in consumption pattern;
- Mass media advertising of processed foods;
- Poor intake of micro nutrients;
- High cost of some locally produced foods; and
- Poor meal planning.
- Inadequate funding of the national health and nutrition programs.

It is against this background that this project is presented for funding under the Government of Grenada's Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative.

### ***Description of the project:***

*General Objective:* To improve the Nutrition and Health status of the population of Grenada.

### ***Expected Outputs:***

- Widespread adherence to Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) guidelines for infant and young child feeding achieved.
- Prevalence of obesity and the associated health consequences reduced.
- Efficiency and effectiveness of nutrition interventions through better targeting improved.
- Policy makers' actions are based on knowledge and their understanding of the detrimental effects of nutritional related diseases and the benefits of intervention on the society and population.
- Food consumption patterns are changed and aligned to national population dietary goals.
- An objective early warning and evaluation/monitoring system of food security vulnerability established for decision making.

*Outputs and activities:*

**1 Achieve widespread adherence to Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) guidelines for infant and young child feeding**

- Promote Breast feeding and complementary foods that are nutrient dense and iron rich
- Re-establish Baby-friendly initiative in all hospitals

**2 Reduce the prevalence of obesity and the associated health consequences**

- Promote healthy food choices and appropriate methods of preparation (to preserve nutrients) Since preparation methods also affect caloric value also, reason for appropriate preparation methods could be omitted here instead of making a list of reasons.
- Promote the benefits of locally produced foods
- Promote the food based dietary guidelines
- Encourage and support physical activity in line with the National Policy on Sports and Physical Activity.
- Strengthen/establish systems for monitoring prevalence of obesity and associated health consequences

**3 Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of nutrition interventions through better targeting**

- Monitor the nutritional status of the population.
- Institute a coordination mechanism for data collection and analysis
- Implement procedures for collation, analysis, dissemination and use of surveillance data between Grenada Food and Nutrition Council (GFNC) and Ministry of Health (MOH) to identify those at risk for nutrition-related diseases
- Strengthen and monitor access to potable water, good sanitation and waste disposal

**4 Policy makers act based on knowledge and their understanding of the detrimental effects of nutrition related diseases and the benefits of intervention on the society and population**

- Create knowledge base for transmission to policy makers
- Create a platform for continuous dialogue with policy makers and other stakeholders
- Developing public policy for labelling and nutrition information on food.

**5 Change food consumption patterns and align them with national population dietary goals**

- Develop National Dietary Goals
- Conduct public education on the importance of the National Dietary Goals emphasizing education of school aged children (3-18 years old)

**6 An objective early warning and evaluation/monitoring system of food insecurity/vulnerability established for decision making.**

- Collection of the cost list of commonly used food items from various local vendors and markets across parishes.
- Using a computer model, generate the lowest cost of a 2,400 calorie balanced diet for a family of five.
- Relate that cost to the current minimum wage as an estimate of vulnerability.
- Use the model also as a promotional tool for healthy eating at low cost.

***ORGANIZATION:***

The project will be managed under the Government of Grenada Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative, under the overall responsibility of the Government established Zero Hunger Challenge Authority. The project will be implemented by the Ministry of Health and Education with support from relevant institutions such as the Grenada Food and Nutrition Council, PAHO and CARPHA.

***COST AND FINANCING:***

The estimated cost of the project over the five year implementation period is put at US \$1.65 million, of which government input is expected to be US \$330,000.



## 11. Strengthening the School Meals Program for Better Learning and Lifelong Healthy Food Choices

### ***Introduction:***

This document presents the broad elements of a project aimed at strengthening the school feeding program for enhanced nutritious meals to ensure better learning and life-long healthy food choices. This is aimed at improving the overall health and nutritional status of Grenadians, with an emphasis on those suffering from malnutrition. It is anticipated that this will be achieved by ensuring that school children are consuming healthy school meals and are making more healthy dietary choices away from school. The project proposal contains actions and activities aimed at:

- Developing a national school nutrition policy.
- Strengthening the infrastructure and overall facilities and tools for the provision of nutritious meals.
- Providing nutrition education in schools to promote healthier food choices and to reduce the prevalence of obesity and the associated health consequences.
- Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of school nutrition interventions through better targeting.
- Improving the governance mechanisms and systems, promoting intersectorial collaboration and broad participation of the national school community.

### ***Strategic context and rationale for Grenada:***

The main food and nutrition security challenges facing Grenada are:

- Healthy food inaccessibility;
- Poor food choices with high preferences for process and package food; and
- The high food import bill.

The challenge of food accessibility is derived from poverty associated with high levels of unemployment and under-employment. The poverty level of Grenada is estimated at 37.7%. The lack of accessibility has manifested in a food and nutrition security situation characterized by an infant mortality rate of 13.5 persons per 1,000; prevalence of undernourished of 18.7%; and overweight/obesity for those older than 35 years estimated at 14.4% for males and 27% for females.

The policy response of Grenada to the high levels of poverty has been to craft national poverty reduction strategies, within the context of a broader National Economic and Social Transformation plan. The response has also been to formulate food and nutrition security policies and action plans, with the core policy elements being:

- Growth and wealth creation;
- Expansion of pro-poor employment and income generating opportunities;
- Modernization of social protection system and increasing resilience of the poor;
- Improvement in the nutrition and health status of the population;
- Good governance and public sector management; and Building of resilience through environmental sustainable.

With respect to nutritional adequacy of the population, Grenada is undergoing a period of nutritional and epidemiological transitions. The nutrition transition is the result of poor food choices as reflected in a shift in diets away from indigenous staples (starchy roots and cereals), locally grown fruits, vegetables, legumes, and limited foods from animals, to diets that are more varied and energy dense, consisting of more processed foods (including beverages high in sugar), more foods from animals, more added sugars, high in fats/oils and sodium, and often more alcohol and mainly imported foods. This shift in diets is ultimately reflected in the epidemiological transition which is seen in a reduction of under-nutrition and

infectious diseases and an increase of overweight and obesity, one of the main risk factors in nutrition/food-related non-communicable chronic diseases (diabetes, hypertension, stroke, cardiovascular diseases and some forms of cancers). Sedentary lifestyles also contribute to the prevalence of these diseases, which are the main public health problems in the region. The risk factors for the chronic diseases begin in early childhood as manifested by increased levels of stunting and wasting (as well as overweight obesity) and increase with age. The persistence of moderate iron- deficiency anaemia especially in early childhood and in pregnant women is also a pressing concern. Several food safety issues also pose a threat to nutritional adequacy. Health-care costs already represent a significant percentage of Grenada's GDP.

In order to impact malnutrition, there are key strategic actions which need to be undertaken, including:

- Enhancing public education and awareness, so as to better utilize local foods and improve nutritional status; and
- Promoting best practices in nutrition, especially through the school meals programmes and community nutrition education.

The Ministry of Education in Grenada has introduced a number of “safety nets” aimed at facilitating education participation for disadvantaged students. One such program is the School Meals Programme (SMP). Although the SMP has realised most of its objectives, the following issues have been identified as constraining the full success of the SMPs in the country:

- Lack of a school nutrition policy.
- Lack of adequate parent/community involvement.
- Absence of operational procedures & standards.
- Lack of effective targeting of the SMPs to ensure that the most needy/vulnerable are reached.
- Limited training of cooks.
- Limited variety of foods in the meals composition.
- Need for improved monitoring of program implementation – better governance
- Need for further training of nutrition teaching staff in schools
- Inadequate supervision of meal service
- Inadequate utensils and equipment
- Poor condition of some kitchens – ventilation, garbage disposal, etc.

It is against this background that this project is presented for funding under the Government of Grenada Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative.

### ***Description of the project:***

**General Objective:** To strengthen the national school meals program for better learning and lifelong healthy food choices.

#### ***Outputs and activities***

##### **1      Develop a national school nutrition policy.**

- Conduct an assessment of relevant policy instruments and measures impacting on school nutrition.
- Promote public purchases from family farming and national production.
- Promote cooks training.

- Develop and implement National School Healthy Lifestyle Policy using the WHO school policy Framework.

## **2 Strengthen the infrastructure for the provision of meals.**

- Conduct an assessment of the capacity of existing facilities, with a view for expansion to facilitate a larger programme.
- Conduct an assessment for analysing current cost of the meals provided at the programme. Carry out construction to expand the meals preparation facilities. The activities which affect meal production at the existing facility should be carried out after close of the Summer Term.
- Purchase a heavy duty vehicle and other items and install major equipment in the expanded facilities.
- Operationalize the expanded facilities.
- Build capacity at institutions, schools and day care centres
- Intensify awareness and public education programmes for parents and food vendors

## **3 Provide nutrition education in schools to promote healthier food choices and to reduce the prevalence of obesity and the associated health consequences**

- Assess the program against its stated objectives. This includes anthropometric assessment of students to determine appropriateness of meal standards.
- Promote healthy food choices and appropriate methods of preparation to preserve nutrients
- Promote the benefits of locally produced foods
- Support the establishment of school gardens.
- Promote the food based dietary guidelines
- Encourage and support physical activity in line with the National Policy on Sports and Physical Activity
- Conduct training of staff as applicable to improve consistency in meal production and portioning of food.
- Conduct training in food safety and sanitation.
- Introduce more local foods through a process of recipe development and testing.
- Develop recipes for every menu item.
- Standardize the recipes for all items. The standardized recipe will contain the ingredients, weight/volume of each ingredient, preparation instructions (directions), cooking temperature, cooking time, serving size, recipe yield and equipment and utensils to be used.
- Refine the menu.
- Conduct cost analysis of menu.
- Develop a one-week emergency menu and a substitution list

## **4 Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of school nutrition interventions through better targeting**

- Institute a coordination mechanism for data collection and analysis
- Implement procedures for collation of surveillance data between Grenada Food and Nutrition Council (GFNC) and Ministry of Health (MOH) to identify those at risk for nutrition related diseases and monitor the nutritional status of the population, especially school children.

## **5 Improve the governance mechanisms and systems.**

- Establish a School Meals Program Management Sub-Committee as an integral part of the Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative Authority.
- Provide appropriate data management and communication equipment.

- Create knowledge base for transmission to policy makers.
- Create a platform for continuous dialogue with policy makers, private sector and civil society.

***Organization:***

The Project will be managed under the Government of Grenada Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative, under the overall responsibility of the Government established Zero Hunger Challenge Authority. The project will be implemented by the Ministry of Education with support from relevant institutions such as the Ministry of Health, the Grenada Food and Nutrition Council (GFNC), PAHO and CARPHA.

***Cost and financing:***

The estimated cost of the project over the five year implementation period is put at US \$0.855 million.

### ***INTRODUCTION:***

This document presents the broad elements of a project aimed at fostering a healthy and productive nation. This project seeks to make the population health literate and aware of the determinants that affect their health. It will also enable them to make healthy choices and encourage wellness checks instead of seeking health care only when ill.

The project will comprise of a health education component, exercise training and skills development in meal planning and food preparation as well as decision making on health choices to name a few. The activities will be executed by health professionals and coordinated by the Health Promotion Department of the Ministry of Health.

### ***STRATEGIC CONTEXT AND RATIONALE FOR GRENADA:***

As a nation, 75% of Grenada's health care dollars go to treatment of chronic diseases. These persistent conditions—the nation's leading causes of death and disability—leave in their wake deaths that could have been prevented, lifelong disability, compromised quality of life, and burgeoning health care costs. Four modifiable health risk behaviours—lack of physical activity, poor nutrition, tobacco use, and excessive alcohol consumption—are responsible for much of the illness, suffering, and early death related to chronic diseases. Seven (7) out of ten (10) deaths among Americans each year are from chronic diseases. Heart disease, cancer and stroke account for more than 50% of all deaths each year.

The project is justified on several grounds.

- Available data shows that almost 1 out of every 2 adults in Grenada would have had at least one chronic illness.
- Obesity has become a major health concern. 1 in every 3 adults is obese and almost 1 in 5 youth between the ages of 6 and 19 is obese. The majority of people in Grenada with chronic conditions have one or more daily activity limitations.
- Arthritis is the most common cause of disability, loss of limb and poor circulation also account for these limitations.
- Diabetes continues to be the leading cause of kidney failure, non-traumatic lower-extremity amputations, and blindness among adults, aged 20-74.

Being physically active can builds fitness, which, in turn, provides you with many health and wellness benefits. Physical activity is a general term that includes sports, dance, and activities done at work or at home, such as walking, climbing stairs, or swimming. When people do physical activity especially for the purpose of getting fit, we say they are doing *exercise*. Regular physical activity can do much to prevent disease and illness. It can help you look your best (with proper nutrition, good posture, and good body mechanics). Besides looking better, people who do regular physical activity feel better, do better on academic work, and are less depressed than people who are less active. Regular physical activity results in physical fitness which is the key to being able to do more of what persons want to do and enjoy life.

It is against this background that this project is presented for funding under the Government of Grenada Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative.

### ***Description of the project:***

*General objective:* To create national awareness on various health issues and adopt healthier lifestyles improve the Nutrition

*Expected Outputs and activities*

**1 Identify target group of community participants.**

- Identify Target group of community participants from
- Assessment of participants by medical practitioner

**2 Develop and implement an exercise program targeting at least 100 public officers.**

- Outline a program plan for exercise-frequency, length, type.
- Design record card
- Develop incentive for Participants to include:
- Develop Promotional Items:
- Engage fitness instructors

**3 Establish nutritional counselling and guidance program for community participants.**

- Plan and implement nutritional counselling/ Guidance project for participants.
- Conduct a series of workshops on priority health issues.
- Plan and implement seminar on mental Health-Alcoholic social addicts
- Engage nutritionists to counsel participants.

***ORGANIZATION:***

The Project will be managed under the Government of Grenada Zero Hunger Initiative, under the overall responsibility of the Government established Zero Hunger Authority. The project will be implemented by the Ministry of Health with support from relevant institutions such as the Ministry of Sports, the Grenada Food and Nutrition Council and community groups.

***COST AND FINANCING:***

The estimated cost of the project over the implementation period is put at US \$95,000.

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

This document presents the broad elements of a project aimed at meeting the needs of children suffering from hunger and undernourishment by expanding the current supplemental Food For Families Program, improving nutrition and health awareness in poor households and providing training in gardening, meal planning, food preparation and storage to enhance the life experience of the beneficiaries.

The project targets the most vulnerable members of society – children who suffer from hunger and undernourishment. However, recognizing that the entire household must be addressed in order to truly change a child's circumstances, the programme is designed to improve food security in the households of children who have been identified as underfed/undernourished. This will be done through interventions that directly provide food to the target beneficiaries, as well as interventions that improve their capacity to feed themselves.

The main beneficiaries of the project are:

- Households benefiting from the Grenada Food and Nutrition Council's "Food for Families Programme" – beneficiaries are the families of children (under 5 years) identified as being severely undernourished (approximately 60).
- Additional households with children previously monitored by the Council who have exceeded 5 years of age and is still at risk for hunger (approximately 10)
  - The household includes three (3) maximum under the age of 10; and
  - The household includes six (6) members maximum
  - Low-income, unemployed, single-parent household

#### **STRATEGIC CONTEXT AND RATIONAL FOR GRENADA:**

Grenada, like many Caribbean islands, has suffered tremendously due to the crash of the financial markets in 2008 and the subsequent drastic decrease in foreign investment, remittances, and multilateral aid. Higher unemployment rates, rising food and fuel cost and lower remittances from abroad, continue to challenge poor households in being able to meet their basic needs. As a result of the socio-economic conditions over the last few years, poor families have lost the economic and social means to access nutritious food in sufficient quantities to maintain good health. Collectively, these factors have intensified the problem of hunger and under-nutrition in poor households.

The 2007/08 Country Poverty Assessment and the 2009 Social Safety Net Assessment (SSNA) concluded that children, who comprise more than 26% of the population, are disproportionately affected by poverty; more than 50% of children under the age of five are poor. According to the SSNA "approximately 10% of new-borns are low weight, there are pockets of under nutrition, and one half of children have some level of iron deficiency". The report also pointed out that "very young children are particularly vulnerable to nutrition-related risks that retard optimal development, including low birth weight, malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies". As one of the most vulnerable groups in society, addressing the needs of poor children is a priority for The Grenada Food & Nutrition Council. The Council is directly responsible for addressing issues of hunger and under-nutrition amongst children zero through five (0-5) years old.

The SFFP is designed to increase availability and access of food to the beneficiary households through a voucher system that would be distributed to the identified families fortnightly by the community Nutrition Officers of the GFNC.

Vouchers will be designed by GFNC and would describe various food items and specific quantities as determined by the Council based on the nutritional needs of the child being provided for. Upon receipt of the voucher, the families would be expected to redeem it in exchange for the food items at partnering markets in their communities. The vouchers would be divided into feeding formula, food items, fresh produce and fruits.

In its initial stage, the programme will serve approximately seventy (70) beneficiaries. To ensure sustainability, the programme will include some interventions such as training to families in the areas of healthy food preparation, proper use and storage of food, safety and sanitation of food, gardening and livestock rearing. Interventions for the households are designed to build their capacity to access food for household consumption and make better use of the food they purchase and have available at home.

Due to the critical nature of the issue of hunger and under-nutrition amongst this population, the Council has identified the need to approach the intervention in a more rigorous manner. A monitoring system will be developed to reduce any potential or actual abnormalities in the system.

It is against this background that this project is presented for funding under the Government of Grenada Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative.

### ***DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT:***

*General objective:* To reduce hunger and under nutrition in the population 0-5 years old.

#### *Expected Outputs and activities*

#### **1 Expand current and cultivate new partnerships with Extension Officers, Farmers, and Supermarkets.**

- Provide supplementary food to the beneficiary families through the voucher programme.
- Hold discussions with the stakeholders on the project to get their support and cooperation (Supermarket owners, food vendors, farmers).
- Hold discussion with beneficiary families to explain the terms and conditions of the programme.
- Sign terms and conditions with beneficiary families as developed by the Council.
- Establish an agreement between the various stakeholders to accept the vouchers.

#### **2 Provide food to identified households.**

- Disburse vouchers to beneficiaries

#### **3 Provide Practical & Theoretical Training.**



- Conduct six practical and theoretical training workshops for participants in meal planning and preparation in each parish.
- Conduct one theoretical training workshop in food safety and sanitation in each parish.
- Conduct one training workshop in effective utilization of food in each parish
- Conduct two training workshops in effective gardening and livestock rearing in each parish
- Distribute seeds and tools for gardening.
- Distribute livestock and poultry for rearing

#### **4 Monitor & Evaluate (M & E) the Supplemental Food for Families Programme**

- Design monitoring and evaluation system of SFFP for the hungry and undernourished.
- Conduct an inception survey on the nutritional status of beneficiaries at the start of the programme, providing a baseline for later evaluations.
- Carry out on-going monitoring and periodic assessments to determine whether beneficiaries need to continue receiving the services of the programme.

#### ***ORGANIZATION:***

The project will be managed under the Government of Grenada Zero Hunger Initiative, under the overall responsibility of the Government established Zero Hunger Authority. The project will be implemented by the Grenada Food and Nutrition Council. A project coordinator will be assigned to the project while the field officers of the Council will be responsible for the day to day monitoring of the project such as distribution of vouchers, growth assessment of the beneficiaries and monitoring of gardening activities. They will report activities and findings to the project coordinator. In addition, implementing partners will lead the implementation of various activities in accordance with their relative expertise.

#### ***COST AND FINANCING:***

The estimated cost of the project over the year implementation period is put at US \$360,000.

## **14. Increase Good Governance and Management of Institutional Mechanisms to Eradicate Hunger, Food Insecurity and Malnutrition in the State of Grenada**

### ***INTRODUCTION:***

The vision underpinning Grenada's Food Nutrition Security Policy is to fully recognize each citizen's right to food and to ensure that all, at all times, have physical, economic, and social access to safe, nutritious, culturally acceptable, and affordable food in sufficient quantities to meet their needs for an active and healthy life. Hence, the Ministry of Agriculture, Land, Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment has taken a deliberate policy decision to launch and implement a Zero Hunger Challenge Initiative (ZHCI). Institutionalizing the rules of good governance would result in greater coordination, transparency and accountability in the delivery of public services. This is an important mechanism to reduce hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition in the state of Grenada.

### ***Strategic context and rationale for Grenada:***

The present economic situation in Grenada is extremely difficult. A review of secondary data sources was conducted as a first step towards identifying vulnerable livelihoods in Grenada.

The 2008 CPA reported that nationally 2.4% of the population were (food poor), 37.7% were absolutely poor (i.e., could not meet both their food and non-food needs), and 14.6% were vulnerable (i.e., were not poor or indigent at the time the assessment was conducted, but were at risk of falling below the poverty threshold) should an unanticipated event such as a natural disaster or economic shock were to occur). In effect, 52.3% of the population was at risk of being vulnerable, poor or indigent. In this report the population at risk is used as a proxy of vulnerability to food insecurity.

The government's policy response has been to craft a national poverty reduction strategy, within the context of a broader National Economic and Social Transformation plan, 2014 -2018 as well as to implement a food and nutrition security action plan 2013 -2018, with the core policy elements being:

- Growth and wealth creation;
- Expansion of pro-poor employment and income generating opportunities;
- Modernization of social protection system and increasing resilience of the poor;
- Improvement in the nutrition and health status of the population; Good governance and public sector management; and Building of resilience through environmental sustainable.

### ***Description of the project/initiative:***

*General objective:* The purpose of this document is to outline a roadmap of good governance for the eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition in Grenada within five (5) years.

### ***Expected results***

- The definition and implementation of strategies that lead to 100 per cent access by all Grenadians to adequate food year round, in the long run;
- Elimination of Zero stunted children less than 5 years within the first five years of the programme

- Establishment of a basis for the sustainability of all domestic food systems
- A 50-100 per cent increase in smallholder production, productivity and income
- A reduction in losses within the food production system

#### *Expected outputs*

- Improved governance support systems, public policies and institutional mechanisms for the development and implementation of the ZHCI in the state of Grenada.
- Increased capacities for the production and consumption of healthy foods for targeted groups using urban and peri-urban production techniques in backyard, school garden and small farms
- Improved Nutrition and health status of the population with a focus on reducing the contribution of obesity, non-communicable diseases (NCHs) and HIV infected persons
- Strengthened the School Feeding Programmes (SFPS).
- Improved management operations of the social protection systems.
- Increased pro-poor employment and income generating opportunities.

#### ***Organization:***

The Project will be managed under the Government of Grenada Zero Hunger Initiative, under the overall responsibility of the Government established Zero Hunger Authority. The project will be implemented by the Zero Hunger Committee which will gather all the relevant sectors of the government (education, health, agriculture, finance, among others), in coordination with the private sector and civil society. It will ensure technical assistance and create an enabling policy environment for decision making.

#### ***Cost and financing:***

*This project is expected to be implemented over a period of five years with a budget of approximately 500,000 USD*

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