

**ASSESSMENT OF AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION NEEDS IN
AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN & PACIFIC (ACP) STATES FOR CTA'S
PRODUCTS AND SERVICES**

Phase 1: Caribbean

Country Study: ST KITTS AND NEVIS

FINAL REPORT

Prepared by:

AGRICO LTD.

on behalf of the

Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA)

Project: 4-7-41-204-4/b

September 2005

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Currency and Equivalents

1.00 EUR	=	1.29636 USD
1.00 EUR	=	1.324 Eastern Caribbean Dollars (EC)
1 metre(m)	=	3.281 feet (ft)
1 hectare (ha)	=	2.471 acres (ac)
1 kilogram (kg)	=	2.205 pounds (lbs)

List of Acronyms

ACURIL	Association of Caribbean University Research and Institutional Libraries
ACP-EU	African, Caribbean, Pacific – European Union
BDD	British Development Division
CAIS	Caribbean Agriculture Information Service
CARDI	Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute
CCCU	Caribbean Confederation of Credit Unions
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
CEMACO	Central Marketing Corporation
CFTDI	CARICOM Fisheries Training and Development Institution
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CRFM	Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism
CTA	Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation
DBKN	Development Bank of St Kitts and Nevis
DBSKN	Development Bank of St Kitts and Nevis – Nevis Branch
DOA	Department of Agriculture
DORA	Dissemination of Reference Books on Agriculture (CTA)
ECCB	Eastern Caribbean Central Bank
ECEMP	Eastern Caribbean Economics Management Programme
EEC	European Economic Community
FADEMCO	Farmers Development and Marketing Commercial Enterprise
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FMU	Fisheries Management Unit
FND	Foundation for National Development
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GPS	Global Positioning Systems
IICA	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
ICM	Information and Communications Management
ICT	Information and Communication Technologies
IFLA	International Federation of Library Associations
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
LCD	Liquid Crystal Display
MAFCLH	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Co-operatives, Lands and Housing
NGC	Nevis Growers Cooperative
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NHCS	Nevis Historical and Conservation Society
NPLS	Nevis Public Library Service
OAS	Organization of American States
OECS	Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States
QAS	Question-and-Answer Service (CTA)
ROC ATM	Republic of China – Agricultural Technical Mission
SAC	Sugar Association of the Caribbean
SCHS	St. Christopher’s Heritage Society
SDI	Selective Dissemination of Information (CTA)
SEDU	Small Enterprise Development Unit
SSMC	St Kitts Sugar Manufacturing Corporation
TA	Technical Assistance
UNEP/GEF	United Nations Environmental Programme/Global Environmental Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
WIDECAST	Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation

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Executive summary

Introduction

The Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA), an ACP-EU body since 1983, and operating within the framework of the ACP-EC Cotonou Agreement since 2000, has had a mandate to develop and provide services that improve access to information for agricultural and rural development, and to strengthen the capacity of ACP countries to produce, acquire, exchange and utilise information in this area. CTA's 2001-2005 "Strategic Plan and Framework for Action identified strategic issues for CTA regarding the improved targeting of its programmes to ensure wider coverage and activities that are relevant to and reach the poor. This study was further prompted by the request of several of CTA's national and regional partners to update the earlier studies done to allow them to provide more targeted assistance to their beneficiaries.

Objectives of the study

The objectives of the study - Assessment Of Agricultural Information Needs In African, Caribbean & Pacific (ACP) States - Phase 1: Caribbean - are as follows:

- to identify agricultural information needs of key actors / beneficiaries for CTA products and services;
- to identify needs of potential actors / beneficiaries of CTA activities and services in terms of building capacity for information and communication management;
- to identify potential partners / beneficiaries for CTA activities and services;
- to develop some baseline data to facilitate subsequent monitoring activities.

Methodology

The study was conducted in two phases; Phase 1 – a desk study which involved a review of available documents and extensive Internet searches; and Phase 2 – field research conducted through consultations/interviews including one broad-based focus group discussion with producer organizations, supplemented with structured data capture formats developed by the CTA. The nineteen (19) organisations/institutions targeted for the study were selected based on a determined potential to facilitate the CTA's work programme at the local level.

Expected results

Findings from this study are expected to inform the CTA priority themes and work programmes for the Caribbean for the next five years. At the same time interviewees will be made more aware of the products and services that are currently available from CTA for institutions and individuals. The needs of the select organisations/institutions will also be assessed in order to update products and services that can support the activities and work programmes of same.

Findings

Agricultural information and communications resources in St Kitts and Nevis are largely centred around the conventional media of print and broadcast, with a slow emergence of the more modern media of e-mail, websites, electronic networking, among others.

Agricultural information needs were identified for the nineteen (19) stakeholders interviewed for the study, namely, St. Christopher Heritage Society (SCHS), Foundation for National Development (FND) – St Kitts, Foundation for National Development (FND) - Nevis),

Development Bank of St. Kitts & Nevis (DBSKN), St. Kitts Sugar Manufacturing Corporation (SSMC), Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Cooperatives, Lands and Housing (MAFCLH) – St. Kitts : Department of Agriculture (DOA), Department of Fisheries and Department of Cooperatives, Central Marketing Corporation (CEMACO), Farmer Development and Marketing Commercial Enterprise (FAMDECO), Small Enterprise Development Unit (SEDU – St. Kitts), Department of Gender Affairs – St. Kitts, Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Housing, Cooperatives and Fisheries (MALHCF) - Nevis: Department of Fisheries, Nevis Public Library Service (NPLS), Nevis Growers Cooperative (NGC), National Historical and Conservation Society – Nevis (NHCS), Producer Focus Group comprising: St Kitts Floral Arrangers, St. Kitts Horticultural Society, Flora hortica, Quality Pineapple Growers Association, St. Kitts Farmers Cooperative Society, Progressive Pig Farmers Association. Needs identified are summed under the broad areas of: information on potential funding sources for their various programme areas, information on training opportunities, trade and marketing information, including new trade issues and regulations, and information to assist in identification and sourcing of affordable and information on appropriate technologies and equipment for production and processing.

Most of the institutions operating within the agricultural sector, in both government and private sector agencies, have limited financial resources to develop appropriate information resources, and lack the physical and human resource capacity for information and communications management. Resource availability, physical, financial and human, is viewed as a key, if not the most serious constraint to meeting agricultural information needs of stakeholders. The producer associations appear to be the most severely affected by this lack of resources, primarily the human resource capacity, for information and communications management.

When the extent of key problems observed among the institutions visited was compared with those previously identified by each of the three CTA operational departments it was found that the situation had begun to change, albeit marginally, since the last CTA study. With respect to **Information Products and Services**, the study revealed that there was no shortage of printed publications. However, information products that were relevant and applicable to the specific needs of organisation were still not widely available to support decision making in the sector. This was largely due to constraints in information servicing, particularly with respect to the time taken to access information and the packaging of information in a form that could be applied directly.

With regard to **Communication Channels and Services**, the assessment revealed growing use of new information sources and the application of modern communications media, such as the Internet – e-mail, websites and electronic discussions groups, as well as linked databases, though traditional channels of print and radio and television, are still largely used to disseminate agricultural information. All of the organisations interviewed, has some degree of capability to effectively utilize new and modern communications technologies, such as Dial-up or ADSL technology for Internet access. However the human and physical resource constraints of organisations limited the extent of use of these electronic information services.

The status of **ICM Skills and Systems** in the country showed marginal improvement, as limited human resource, coupled with a general lack of expertise for ICM and limited opportunities for training in this regard were highlighted by the study. The nineteen (19) institutions interviewed, including the MACFLH of St. Kitts and the MALHCF of Nevis, cited limited physical, financial and human resource as major constraints to capacity development for ICM required for meeting agricultural information needs. The producer organisations however, appear to be the most severely affected in this regard.

Conclusions

Information Needs

Priority information needs of institutions in the agricultural and rural sector in St Kitts and Nevis at present and through to the next 5 years can be summarized under the broad thematic areas of food production, processing, marketing, commercialization; food security; rural development, and natural resources management.

Capacity building needs

Physical, financial and human resource constraints have been identified as the major factors hampering to adequate information management and the use of ICTs in the agricultural and rural sector of St. Kitts and Nevis. There is need therefore, for capacity building efforts to seek to overcome these constraints, which make it difficult for organizations to avail themselves of basic tools and equipment required to access and communicate information now and for the future.

Further, there is need to develop more definitive information management policies and strategies at the national/sector level and institutional levels, to facilitate strategic data and information collection and communication required to foster and guide decision-making at all levels in the sector.

The existing situation therefore presents considerable opportunity for CTA interventions in the country, in terms of providing access to information, capacity building as well as addressing a key strategic area of partnership and targeting of beneficiaries.

Recommendations

Given the extent and diverse needs of the stakeholders in the agricultural and rural sector of St Kitts and Nevis, and current human, physical and financial constraints, the country will need to prioritize those needs within the framework of national goals, agricultural sector policy, needs of stakeholders and available resources, to develop the capabilities for maintaining information and communication services and for tailoring them to the specific needs of stakeholders.

Information needs

1. Improved accessibility to publications and other information by extending the reach of CTA's products and services to the partners and beneficiaries identified in the study.
2. Information packages tailored to be meet the specific needs of the partners and beneficiaries.
3. Public awareness programmes aimed at developing local capacity to engender an information culture and an appreciation for the value of information to be undertaken by public and private sector with support from CTA.

Capacity building needs

4. CTA should provide resources, equipment and/or skills - technical assistance in strengthening local and national distribution infrastructure for the establishment of networks at the local level, as well as on a regional and international level.
5. CTA should assist in sourcing funds for acquiring physical resources to develop the capabilities of stakeholders/actors such as SEDU, CEMACO/FAMDECO to take advantage of existing e-distribution channels.

6. CTA to provide support through its existing Caribbean regional agricultural policy network for the participatory development and implementation of information and communication management policies and strategies to promote the use of information products and services for planning and decision-making in the sector.
7. The Government of the St Kitts and Nevis should move quickly to develop and implement a national ICM policy and strategy, to promote and encourage the development and implementation of ICM policies and strategies at the ministerial and all other levels.
8. Institutions at the national level should begin to assign a critical mass of physical and human resources needed for the management of data and information resources.
9. Stakeholders at all levels in the sector should develop mechanisms to access requisite skills training in the area of information and communication management (ICM). CTA could assist in facilitating ICM and related skills training.
10. CTA could assist select public and private sector institutions in the creation of databases utilizing standardized formats for agricultural information management to facilitate information dissemination, and the development of skills for the management of these databases. Short term technical assistance should be provided for the design and building of databases, while counterpart training is pursued for development of local knowledge and expertise for the long term.

Potential partners and beneficiaries

The following organisations are recommended for CTA partnering initiatives in St Kitts and Nevis: SEDU, SCHS, NGC, Departments of Fisheries – St Kitts and Nevis and a strengthened CEMACO, as they fulfil all of the criteria outlined by CTA. The other organisations namely, FAMDECO, , FND, Department of Gender Affairs and all the fledgling producer associations – NGC, St. Kitts Farmers Cooperative, Quality Pineapple Growers Association, St. Kitts Floral Arrangers/Flora hortica and the Progressive Pig Farmers Association, and to a lesser extent the NHCS, as well as the MACFLH, meet the criteria for potential CTA beneficiaries.

1. INTRODUCTION

1. The Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) established in 1983 under the Lomé Convention between the ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific) Group of States and the European Union Member States has since 2000, operated within the framework of the ACP-EC Cotonou Agreement. CTA's tasks are to develop and provide services that improve access to information for agricultural and rural development, and to strengthen the capacity of ACP countries to produce, acquire, exchange and utilise information in this area.
2. Following the implementation of CTA's Strategic Plan (2001-2005) in 2002, CTA's activities were distributed among three operational programme areas / departments:
 - Information Products and Services;
 - Communication Channels and Services;
 - Information and Communication Management Skills and Systems.

These operational departments are supported by a central service known as Planning Corporate Services (P&CS) Unit which is charged with the methodological underpinning of their work and monitoring the ACP environment in order to identify emerging issues and trends and make proposals for their translation into programmes and activities. This current exercise, therefore, falls within the mandate of P&CS.

3. The "Strategic Plan and Framework for Action – 2001 – 2005" developed by CTA based on the "Evaluation of the Implementation of the Mid-Term Plan (1997 – 2000)" identifies strategic issues for CTA including: improved targeting (including partnerships and beneficiaries), geographical coverage, decentralisation, regionalisation and thematic orientation. Issues related to the extent to which CTA's activities are relevant to and reach the poor, gender awareness and partner identification and selection were also brought to the fore. In addition, various national and regional partners with whom CTA has had a long-standing relationship requested a study which would serve to update the earlier studies done and allow them to provide more targeted assistance to their beneficiaries.
4. The objectives of this study are as follows:
 - to identify agricultural information needs of key actors / beneficiaries for CTA products and services;
 - to identify needs of potential actors / beneficiaries of CTA activities and services in terms of building capacity for information and communication management;
 - to identify potential partners / beneficiaries for CTA activities and services;
 - to develop some baseline data to facilitate subsequent monitoring activities.

2. COUNTRY PROFILE

5. The Federation of St Kitts and Nevis (SKN) is situated at the northern end of the Leeward Island chain of the West Indies, , about one-third of the way from Puerto Rico to Trinidad and Tobago; geographic coordinates: 17 20 N, 62 45 W. The Federation is made up of two islands separated by a narrow strait. Nevis, the smaller of the two islands, which has a land area of 93.2 km² and lies about 3 kilometres (km) south-east of St Kitts, the larger island which has a total area of 168.4 km². The country is a former British colony with an estimated population of 38,836 (2004), of which 67.5% was rural.
6. The rural population of St. Kitts is scattered in 43 villages comprising the nine parishes of St. George (dominated by the city of Basseterre), Trinity (Challengers), St. Thomas (Old Road Town), St. Pauls (St. Pauls), St. Anne (Sandy Point Town), St. John (Drippe Bay), Christ Church (Lodge), St. Peter (St. Peter) and St. Mary (Cayon) – (Main village in the parish). The population of Nevis, which is approximately 9,000 is distributed over five parishes namely, St Paul, Charlestown; St. Thomas, Lowland; St. James, Windward, St. George the Martyr, Gingerland and St. John the Baptist, Fig Tree.
7. St Kitts and Nevis is a small, open economy producing a very narrow range of goods and services most of which are exported, and relying heavily on imports to satisfy the demand for consumer and producer goods. Growth in annual real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for St Kitts and Nevis averaged 4% during the ten year period 1990 – 99. The contribution of the agricultural sector to GDP however, registered progressive decline from 15.6% in 1980 to 5.2% in 1999 and 4.85% in 2003.
8. The agricultural sector and in particular the sugar industry has been a major contributor to economic activity. While, the tourism industry has since become a major source of income and employment, the sector has been somewhat stagnated in recent years due to inadequate access to this destination from major markets. The manufacturing sector which has been expanding over recent years is now faced with intense competition from regional manufacturers which has resulted in reduced demand for goods produced for the domestic and regional markets. The Government of St Kitts and Nevis has identified the offshore sector as a sphere of activity with significant growth potential and is currently undertaking initiatives to realize this potential.
9. The sugar industry, has dominated the agricultural sector of St. Kitts, with up to 60 - 70% of the estimated 21,550 acres of cultivable lands on the island being planted in sugar cane in the late 1980's. Production operations in the field have been partially mechanized and over the years the sugar industry has relied on the availability of cheap and abundant labour for both the production and manufacturing operations. It has been recognized that the long term success of the national diversification effort in the agricultural sector in St. Kitts is inextricably linked to an agricultural diversification process within the operations and lands in the sugar industry.
10. Non-sugar agriculture in St Kitts comprises mainly fruits and vegetables produced in small quantities, largely for domestic consumption. Livestock production and fishing are becoming important activities. Most non-sugar crop farming is carried out by the more than 4,000 farmers who operate on small holdings of an average one hectare. The small-scale farming sector is characterized by three major groups: subsistence farmers; producers for the local market and livestock farmers. There is some commercial farming activity, usually on holdings ranging from 4 to 8 hectares, with approximately 25 commercial scale farmers producing about 75% of the output of food crops. On Nevis,

vegetables and root crops are cultivated on a subsistence basis and some cotton is grown for export.

11. The small farming sector is involved in diverse agricultural production activities and controls a very small portion of the total land area, water and capital resources. In addition these farmers have limited access to credit and to other critical production inputs and services. Crop production is carried out mainly under rain-fed conditions, so that during the year, supplies vary with the amount of rainfall.
12. Livestock production is mainly for subsistence, with the main areas of activity being cattle, sheep, goat and poultry rearing. Most livestock farmers operate on a part-time basis, in a disorganized and inefficient operational frame, resulting in a poor quality and unreliable supply of products and an inability to meet the cost of production.
13. There are more than 100 registered fishing boats in St Kitts and Nevis used by more than 300 active fishers. Most of the fishing is done from small, wooden, open boats ranging in length from 5 to 8 metres, and utilizing outboard motors with horsepower ranging from 25hp to 150 hp. Fishing methods are traditional, although some modern techniques have been adopted in recent years.

2.1 Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

14. The constitution of the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis provides for a National Assembly and the Nevis Island Assembly. The administration of Government services is carried out by separate civil service structures based in Basseterre, St Kitts and Charlestown, Nevis, with each jurisdiction having separate administration for its agricultural sector.
15. The primary actors involved in the agricultural and rural sector can be classified into the following categories¹- producers, service-providers, decision-makers, consumers, donors and NGO's supporting farmers' associations. These stakeholders belong to different groups, often with changing roles and fulfilling several functions at any one time.
16. There are several local, regional and international institutions impacting to varying degrees on agricultural development in St. Kitts and Nevis. Among the local institutions in St. Kitts are the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Co-operatives, Lands and Housing (MAFCLH), Ministry of Trade, Ministry of Gender Affairs, St Kitts Sugar Manufacturing Corporation (SSMC), credit and marketing institutions. The MAFCLH plays a pivotal role in the policy and planning for the sector as well as the design and implementation of agricultural projects, having direct technical responsibility for agricultural development. The MAFCLH in St Kitts comprises 4 departments – Agriculture; Fisheries; Cooperatives (established in 1986); and Land and Housing.
17. Projects which are exclusively for Nevis or have a Nevis component are under a ministerial portfolio in that island; agriculture is one of the areas over which the island has separate jurisdiction. Similar to St Kitts, there is a Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Housing, Cooperatives and Fisheries (MALHCF) in Nevis comprising 4 departments – Agriculture; Fisheries; Cooperatives; and Land and Housing, responsible for the policy and planning, as well as the design and implementation of agricultural development programmes and projects.

¹ Categorisation used in Proceedings of a CTA Seminar – Information for Agricultural and Rural Development in ACP Countries: Emerging Stakeholders, New Media, and Priority Themes. Paris. 2000.

2.1.1 Agriculture

18. The Department of Agriculture in the MAFCLH is responsible for the development of non-sugar agriculture in St. Kitts and provides a wide range of services as well as technical support to the agricultural sector. It has as its mission statement “to be a high quality provider of leadership and support in non-sugar agriculture and forestry; to secure food self-sufficiency and satisfy export markets towards sustainable development in St. Kitts and Nevis²”.
19. Activities in the Department of Agriculture (DOA) had for the past six years been managed as specific programmes, for example Crop, Livestock and Fisheries programmes. However, a separate Department of Fisheries was recently established in 2002. The primary programme areas of the Department of Agriculture (DOA) are currently defined under the following thematic areas: 1. Livestock Development; 2. Crop Development – Agronomy; 3. Veterinary Health; 4. Marketing. The Crop and Livestock programmes of the DOA are supported by four units namely, Communications, Engineering, Propagation and Quarantine, with research and extension components in both programme areas. The Communications Unit integrates with the extension component.
20. A Senior Management Team in the Department of Agriculture is responsible for the implementation of the Strategic Plan and the annual work programme for non-sugar agriculture. The annual work programme is however, implemented with support from national, regional and international allied agencies including CARDI, FAO and ROC ATM. A statutory body, the St. Kitts Sugar Manufacturing Corporation (SSMC) manages about forty government-owned sugar estates (4,200 ha) and operates the sole sugar factory on the island.
21. A similar structure has been adopted by the agriculture department in Nevis.

2.1.2 Fisheries

22. The fisheries sub-sector in St. Kitts is managed by the Fisheries Department, recently upgraded from a Fisheries Management Unit (FMU), a possible reflection of the steady growth realized in this sub-sector. The Department comprises six sub-units, namely, resources management, data management, extension and training, enforcement, fisheries complex and Research and development. The six departments are managed by a central administrative unit, headed by a Senior Fisheries Officer. The work of the Fisheries Department in Nevis is centred around the four sub-themes of education; conservation, data collection and promoting the efficiency of fishers. Key stakeholders in this sub-sector comprise fisher organizations, the Port Authority and the Customs Department.

2.1.3 Forestry

23. About 37% of the land area of St. Kitts (approximately 6,500 ha) and 20% of Nevis (1,900 ha) is covered by forests (Mills, 1998 and CCA/IRF 1991). The forest cover in St. Kitts and Nevis can be classified as follows: rain and cloud forest (2,300 ha); moist forest (2,100 ha) and dry forest (2,100 ha) (CCA/IRF, 1991). Nearly all forested areas, except for the south-east peninsula of St. Kitts is owned by government. A small forestry programme aimed at forest conservation, protection and recreation, is co-managed by the Department of Agriculture in the MAFCLH and the Ministry of Environment.

² Agriculture and Fisheries Policy St Kitts, 2001.

Stakeholders in this sub-sector are government and land owners. Forestry issues are dealt with under the Department of Land and Housing.

2.1.4 Emerging Stakeholders

24. Other government agencies provide support in commercial and business aspects to agro-producers in all three sub-sectors. The Small Enterprise Development Unit (SEDU) for example, provides enterprise/business development training and advisory services, as well as product development. Currently SEDU is spearheading a range of activities aimed at assisting agro-producers in upgrading the quality and presentation of their processed products. Agencies such as these tend to work in close collaboration with other technical cooperation agencies present in the region, such as IICA and FAO. The Foundations for National Development (FND) in both St Kitts and Nevis and the Development Bank of St. Kitts and Nevis provide financing support to small and medium agricultural and fishing enterprises.
25. Several producer organizations and non-governmental organizations have begun to play a more prominent role in the sector in the last five to ten years. Producer associations such as St Kitts Farmers Cooperative Society, Quality Pineapple Growers Association, Progressive Pig Farmers Association, Flora hortica, Flower Arrangers Association, Bee Keepers Association and a few Fishers groups, in addition to playing a large advocacy role, are becoming increasingly important as vehicles for information sharing among producers. The Nevis Growers Cooperative (NGC) also plays an instrumental role in information sharing with producers. However, with the exception of Flora hortica and the Flower Arrangers' Association, which have a Secretariat, and the Nevis Grower Cooperative with a small sales and accounting office, none of these bodies have established structures for information and communications management.
26. As in St. Kitts, there are similar non-governmental and private sector institutions operating in the agriculture sector in Nevis including the Development Bank of St. Kitts and Nevis – Nevis Branch (DBSKN); Small Enterprise Development Unit (SEDU); and the Foundation for National Development (FND). The Nevis Grower Cooperative is the umbrella organization for the various producer groups, while the recently established Farmers Development and Marketing Commercial Enterprise (FADEMCO) undertakes the marketing of farmers produce and provision of agricultural inputs to producers.
27. The St Christopher Heritage Society (SCHS) plays a peripheral role with regard to information and communication management in the sector in St. Kitts, in the form of facilitation or compilation of agricultural related studies. A similar role is assumed by the Nevis Historical and Conservation Society (NHCS) at a national level in Nevis.
28. Other regional and international institutions which operate in the sector include CARDI, in the area of research, and the CDB, CIDA, BDD, OAS, USAID, EEC, with respect to funding.

2.2 Information and Communication Management Capacity

29. In this study, information includes items such as: technical, project & financial reports, files (hard and electronic) and correspondence, collections of books, bulletins, newsletters, photographs, videos, audio cassettes, maps, data sets (e.g. statistical data, market information), advisory services. Communication refers specifically to the mechanisms for the dissemination and exchange of information through various means

such as: radio and TV programmes, e-mail, websites, telecentres, electronic discussion groups, meetings, television and publications (cf. Data capture form).

30. CTA1, referenced earlier in this report, describes two main types of communications tools:
 - conventional or traditional media: radio and television, the press, posters, books, information sheets, cassettes, movies, theatre, telephones, meetings, drums, etc.;
 - new media: cellular telephones, e-mail, the Web, other Internet services, satellite broadcasts, remote sensing systems, etc.
31. Agricultural information and communication resources in St Kitts and Nevis are still largely viewed in terms of the conventional media of print and broadcast, with a slow emergence of the more modern media of e-mail, websites, electronic networking, among others. There is an apparent abundance of information resources within the various agencies operating within the agricultural sector, in the form of print media including technical, project and financial reports, files (hard and electronic) and correspondence, collections of books, bulletins, newsletters. However, information resources in electronic formats such as photographs, videos, audio cassettes, maps, data sets (e.g. statistical data, market information), are not as widespread and are available mainly in the larger institutions which have greater access to ICTs.
32. The Department of Agriculture and its associated Communications Unit have basic capacity for management of print, photographic, video and audio information. The Departments of Agriculture and Fisheries in the MAFCLH also have some degree of capacity for statistical data information management. Maps and associated information, in hard copy formats, are managed under the Department of Lands and Housing in the MAFCLH, the limited capacity of which is supported by a tenuous link to the Ministry of Planning. Some limited capacity to manage market information is being developed in CEMACO and the Department of Agriculture's Marketing Unit. The St Christopher Heritage Society (SCHS) and the Nevis Historical and Conservation Society (NHCS) have over the last few years developed information management capacity within documentation centres. These institutions serve as a national resource where a wide variety of print, visual and audio information can be found in one location, including some historical data, and preserved government records, reports, and other studies, some related to the agricultural sector.
33. Most of the institutions operating within the agricultural sector, in both government and private sector agencies, have limited financial resources to develop appropriate information resources, and as a result lack the physical and human resource capacity for information and communications management. In fact, resource availability is viewed as a key, if not the most serious constraint to meeting the agricultural information needs of stakeholders. The overall budgets of most institutions are usually quite small and, allocations to agricultural information are often times meagre or non-existent. This makes it difficult to acquire the type of equipment to utilize and manage information such as computer hardware and software, reprographic equipment, audio-visual equipment, to make such technologies readily accessible or available. Producers, including, farmers and fisher folk and their collective associations appear to be the most severely affected by these resource constraints, primarily with respect to physical and human resource capacity, for ICM.
34. Dedicated agricultural information and communication departments/sections are not a feature of most institutions in the sector, and in most instances information management appears to be a shared responsibility among the usually limited number of technical and

administrative staff. Technical staff tends to be highly trained, to Bachelors and Masters Degree level, in their specific areas of technical expertise, which range from Marketing, Extension, Agronomy, Engineering, Veterinary Medicine and Livestock Science to Economics, Management and Accounting. Specialist skills of curator and archivist are also employed in the NHCS. However, while most technical experts and administrative personnel may be highly proficient in the use of some form of ICTs, they have limited or no training in and/or knowledge of the management of information and communications.

35. Agricultural information is disseminated/communicated through various means primary of which are radio and television programmes, e.g. Government weekly radio program, “Agriscope” and a weekly Television Program – “ Agriculture in Context”, publications such as fact sheets and flyers, training materials – hard copy and A/V, and informal question and answer services. The SCHS engages in various public awareness and education programmes in the form of field trips, lectures, mounting of displays, production of brochures and radio and TV programmes. There is however, an apparent absence of established mechanisms for the flow of technical and other related information to professionals within and among institutions and agencies in the sector. Consequently, available reports and external agency project documents tend to have limited circulation among organisations in the sector.
36. Internet access is generally available at the management level, i.e. in the head offices, of most institutions but tends to be quite limited in the case of line staff, particularly those based at community level, a consequence of hardware and software constraints. Communication via Internet is primarily through e-mail. Current use of websites is limited, and there is little or no information exchange through this medium, as the capacity for developing and managing interactive websites is still lacking. There are no established telecentres and the location of Internet Cafés, make it difficult to manage the communication of information to the various producer groups and other vulnerable groups (women, youth). Other Internet services such as electronic discussion groups are utilized by a few persons at the management level of the sector, usually for the exchange of specific information within collaborating institutions, e.g. information exchange between the Department of Fisheries and Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM).
37. The MACFLH has a stated policy to strengthen communication to enhance the linkage between the Ministry and its stakeholders and to assist in farmer training and general delivery of agricultural information. The primary means for the communication of information is via programmes utilizing the Government owned radio and television stations.

2.3 Agricultural Information Services

38. Agricultural information services at the national level are largely delivered through public sector entities, such as the departments in the MAFCLH in St Kitts, MALHCF in Nevis, and the Nevis Public Library Services, the former two acknowledged by the many stakeholders as the primary source of agricultural information and services at the national level. The nature of the agricultural information service provided varies among the institutions in the sector.
39. Technical advisory services for example is delivered through the extension services of the MAFCLH in St Kitts and the MALHCF in Nevis, often in the form of printed material, reproduced literature, and broadcast services, mainly television and radio programmes. The Nevis Public Library Services and the small library in the Department of Agriculture

MACFLH in St Kitts also maintain a collection of varied agricultural related literature, available on request, usually as reproduced material.

40. The majority of the institutions interviewed identified their personal collection of documents as an information source which was used frequently. Most of the institutions also indicated that they sourced information from regional and international sources, such as publications and through meetings and informal QAS with counterpart associations and affiliated bodies. Research and other scientific information are generally accessed through membership in associations or affiliated bodies. For example the SSMC obtains most of its technical advice through its membership body, the Sugar Association of the Caribbean (SAC). Similarly the Department of Fisheries sources most information required for executing its programmes through affiliated agencies such as CRFM. Direct contact with universities and research institutions however, tends to be limited, with only two organisations, the SCHS and NPLS, indicating this as a source. The Internet is increasingly becoming a key information source, but due to the limited access to Internet in most organizations, this source is yet to be tapped optimally. Audio-visuals, primarily local radio and television programmes, were also identified as a main source of information, mainly for the producer type organisations such as the NGC.

41. Table 1 provides a list of organizations through which information is sourced by the various agencies in the agricultural sector for the execution of their programmes.

Table 1. List of Organizations that Serve as Sources of Information at the National, Regional and International Levels

Local/National	Regional	International
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MAFCLH – St Kitts - T ▪ MALHCF – Nevis - T ▪ SCHS -G ▪ Banks - F ▪ Customs Department - E ▪ Nevis Cooperative Credit Union - F ▪ St Kitts Cooperative Credit Union -F ▪ Planning Unit – Government Statistical Department – E ▪ Pesticide Suppliers - T ▪ Small Business Association – E, G ▪ Internal Reports – T, E, F, G ▪ Local expertise on Boards of Management of Institutions – T, E, F, G ▪ Colleagues – G ▪ Radio and television programmes – G, T 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sugar Association of the Caribbean (SAC) - T ▪ CARICOM Fisheries Training and Development Institution (CFTDI) - T ▪ Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) - T ▪ Foundations for National Development (FNDs) in the region – F, G ▪ Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation – WIDECAST - T CARDI - T ▪ IICA – T, E, G ▪ Caribbean Confederation of Credit Unions (CCCU) - F ▪ Eastern Caribbean Economic Management Programme (ECEMP) - E ▪ ECCB - statistics - E ▪ Caribbean Development Bank –CTCS - T ▪ University of the West Indies – T 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CTA – T, E, G ▪ FAO – T, E, G ▪ British Development Division (BDD) – T, F ▪ CIDA - F ▪ European Investment Bank – EIB - F ▪ Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) – T, F ▪ UNEP/GEF – T, F ▪ Databases/Research Reports from Universities - T ▪ UNICEF - G ▪ Education USA - G ▪ UNESCO - G ▪ UNECLAC - E ▪ Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) - T ▪ UNIFEM - G ▪ IFLA - G ▪ ACURIL - G

Type of information supplied: T- Technical; E- Economic, F-Financial, G- General,

3. NEEDS ANALYSIS

42. As in other OECS countries, ongoing realignment of the stakeholder environment in the agricultural and rural sector of St Kitts and Nevis has seen the role of government evolving to that of facilitator and enabler. This has created a new area of responsibility for producers and their collective organizations, as well as other service providers in the private sector, with respect to the formulation and management of agricultural and rural development policies, and the concomitant issues of information and communications management.
43. Traditionally the Departments of Agriculture (DOA) through extension services served as the principal source of information to producers and other stakeholders in the agriculture and rural sector. Though still considered a key player in information and communication resources, the role of the DOA is progressively being diminished as producers and other stakeholders begin to seek and expect information directly from institutions who provide them with services in areas such as business development (SEDU), financing (FND), marketing (CEMACO, FAMDECO), producer organisations (e.g. Farmers Cooperative, St. Kitts Floral Arrangers, etc.), input suppliers, among others. These are completely new roles and stakeholders in this grouping are only just coming to terms with the new responsibilities and opportunities. This development therefore, has significant implications for defining stakeholders, information needs and capacity building requirements.
44. Further, national policies and strategies to address the current dynamics of this change are inappropriate or non-existent . As a result, there remains a huge gap between the new roles that these stakeholders are required to play and the availability of the necessary skills, resources (financial, human and physical) and information required to integrate these stakeholders into the mainstream of agriculture and rural development.. A principal need therefore, is that of redefining development strategies to emphasize information and communication management. This would engender the development of information and communication policies and strategies aimed at creating the type of mechanisms, including the access to and use of new communications technologies that will enable stakeholders to effectively function in their new and emerging roles and meet new global challenges.

3.1 Information Needs

45. Information needs of stakeholders in the agricultural and rural sector of St Kitts and Nevis are driven by the primary goals of similar developing nations, which are consistent with the three goals of the new partnership agreement between ACP states and the European Union: poverty reduction, sustainable development and the progressive integration into the global economy More specifically, the information needs of the sector will be guided by the Agriculture and Fisheries Policy developed by the MAFCLH in St Kitts in February 2001, which focuses on the primary areas of: agricultural production and marketing; agricultural supplies and services; promotion of farmers development, SSMC agricultural diversification programme and transition; land allocation and distribution; fisheries management and development; forestry conservation, protection and recreation and bee keeping and honey production.
46. In keeping with the national and sector development plans, the analysis of information obtained from the nineteen institutions interviewed (profiles outlined in Annex III of the

report) indicates that the main types of information and data required to execute their work programmes are aimed at addressing one or more of the following issues: food production, processing, marketing, nutritional quality and safety for commercialization of the sector to facilitate integration of small producers into the larger regional and global economies; food security; rural development, and the sustainable use and development of the country's natural resources of land and water, including marine resources.

47. All of the institutions interviewed indicated critical information needs for execution of their programmes in at least one of the following areas: funding sources for their various programme areas; training opportunities; trade and marketing information, including new trade issues and regulations; and information to assist in identification and sourcing of affordable and appropriate technologies and equipment for production and processing.
48. The specific information needs of the key institutions to service their work programmes over the next few years are further outlined in Table 2 :

Table 2. Specific Information Needs of Key Institutions in Agricultural Sector

Organisation/Institution	Information Needs
<i>St. Christopher Heritage Society (SCHS):</i>	Heritage development, Biodiversity, Agronomy/production systems-medicinal plants, food processing / packaging;
<i>Foundation for National Development (FND):</i>	Producer profiles, credit mechanisms – micro-credit techniques, statistics on local manufacturing;
<i>Farmer Development and Marketing Commercial Enterprise (FAMDECO):</i>	Grading, post harvest technologies, packaging, transport, identification of markets;
<i>Small Enterprise Development Unit (SEDU):</i>	Economic data, Trade and Market information, Commodity and small business profiles;
<i>Department of Fisheries, MAFCLH:</i>	Technical information: resource estimation, Information relating to WTO; methods for information compilation cataloguing of information and storage for easy access and information sharing;
<i>Nevis Public Library Service (NPLS):</i>	Information management;
<i>Nevis Growers Cooperative (NGC):</i>	Technical information: integrated pest management, post harvest technology, grading systems, identification of markets, commodity profiles;
<i>Development Bank of St. Kitts & Nevis (DBSKN):</i>	Economic Data;
<i>Nevis National Historical and Conservation Society(NHCS):</i>	Heritage development;
<i>St. Kitts Sugar Manufacturers Corporation (SSMC):</i>	Technological: Sugar journals, financial journals, globalization issues, trade negotiations, information on preparation for trade liberalization;
<i>Central Marketing Corporation (CEMACO):</i>	Trade information – import statistics- price\ commodities;
<i>Department of Agriculture- MAFCLH:</i>	Market information, production information, technical information on various aspects: – green house, irrigation, pasture development etc., group formation and dynamics;
<i>Department of Gender Affairs:</i>	Statistics- population, crime, employment, etc., general information on rural development strategies / approaches;
<i>Producer Groups: (St Kitts Floral Arrangers, St. Kitts Horticultural Society, Flora hortica,</i>	Workshops/seminars, funding sources, trade fairs, marketing, transportation/shipping to

Organisation/Institution	Information Needs
<i>Quality Pineapple Association, St. Kitts Farmers Cooperative Society, Progressive Pig Farmers Association:</i>	better utilize neighbouring markets, production – practices to improve productivity and efficiency, business management to improve profitability, technical – greenhouse technologies, hydroponics, etc.

49. Other priority information needs based on national policies and plans as gleaned from information gathered in documents and interviews with policy makers and the management of the institutions are categorized under the following headings:

Technical

- Post Harvest Technologies
- Farm management
- Agricultural waste utilization/ management,
- Land use information – GIS geo-spatial data
- Water resources management
- ICTs – networking
- Information security – e.g. creating secure electronic discussion groups, documentation protocols;

Socio-economic

- Agricultural and fisheries data e.g. production, domestic consumption
- Agricultural credit risk assessment tools and mechanism for risk management
- Business information – import statistics, export opportunities, raw material sources and prices, and relevant technologies
- Other marketing information – market trends, commodity prices, barriers to entry - required by producer organizations in their thrust to become commercially viable;
- agricultural marketing: patents – intellectual property – TRIPS
- Trade Statistics
- Information on natural disasters / phenomena
- Crop and agri-enterprise insurance systems.

General

- Globalization issues – updates on trade regulations and status of trade negotiations
- Summaries – trade agreements – key aspects; implications of trade liberalization on sector
- Programmes executed by agricultural networks (regional and international)
- Opportunities and sources of funding for training.

50. The organisations interviewed highlighted the need for information to be adapted and packaged in a form that directly relates to their programme areas, so as to make it more relevant and appropriate to their needs. Information solutions should also consider literacy, gender and educational factors. For example, while print format is considered the simplest means by which information can be made accessible to most users, the need for more audio visual packaging was strongly advised by the producers, given the low affinity for reading observed in the population. The organisations which tended to serve as repositories for information such as DOA, SSMC, SCHS and NHCS indicated a preference for comprehensive information in the form of actual documents, journals and reports, while the other organisations interviewed seemed to have a preference for abstracts, executive summaries, fact-sheets, bulletins, graphs, charts and trends in which there was some form of conversion of the information.

51. The information needs of the service providers in the sample of organisations interviewed e.g. FND, CEMACO, etc, were found to be ultimately focused on providing a level of information services that meet the specific needs of their beneficiaries, e.g. farmers and fishers. Consequently the information needs of these groups will be focused on the identification, documentation, accessing and dissemination of agricultural information in their roles as technical, business and financial advisers to growers/producers.

Non-governmental organizations such as the SCHS and NHCS, have over the last few years begun to play a more integral role in the agricultural and rural sector. The programmes of NGOs are usually quite targeted, hence they are better able to identify and source information resources needed for programme implementation and to structure and manage them accordingly.

52. Information needed and found difficult to acquire by most institutions, showed little variation from needs indicated in the 1997 Country Agricultural Needs Survey Report. All institutions indicated difficulty in accessing information at the national and regional levels, including: national and regional research reports; domestic and regional production and market statistics; packaging and equipment sourcing and availability; agricultural research programmes; extension programmes and technology networks and programmes particularly of regional organizations; conferences, meetings and trade fairs; government and international regulations. Other economic and general information found difficult to acquire by the organisations interviewed include inter alia heritage development, biodiversity, micro-credit mechanisms, transportation and shipping, organisation operational standards and evaluation methods.

3.2 Capacity building Needs

53. This section focuses on the specific capacity building needs of the nineteen stakeholders interviewed in the study.
54. The study revealed that the emerging stakeholders in the sector, such as SCHS, SEDU, FND and CEMACO/FAMDECO, and even some of the producer organisations (e.g. St Kitts Floral Arrangers/Flora hortica), are beginning to place a greater emphasis on having good information resources and therefore, endeavour to dedicate the services of either paid employees or volunteers for the management of information resources.
55. One major drawback however, to effective information and communication management in the aforementioned organisations is the inability to link to institutions, especially government agencies, to achieve synergies in this regard. There is need therefore, for these organisations to better integrate into local and national information networks. This will allow them to improve coordination and monitor information needs of their stakeholders. They also need to acquire the skills necessary to better manage and utilize information and communications resources.
56. The following outline of the current use of ICTs by the organisations interviewed, however, illustrates the integral role of ICTs in information management in the institutions interviewed as a basis for determining more specific capacity building needs.

Current Use of ICTs

57. Current use of ICT's in the sector is varied depending on the type and scale of operation of the institution or organization, and includes:

- Research and information access - Internet, CD-Rom, etc.
- Information dissemination/public education through print, photographs, documentaries/video recording
- Project preparation and implementation
- Financial management; sales, accounting
- Desktop publishing – preparation of brochures, newsletters, fact sheets, flyers
- Database management
- Trends / analysis , etc
- Radio and television programmes
- Informal question and answer services
- Preparation and presentation of training materials
- Communication via Internet
- General clerical/ secretarial work.

58. The institutions also envisage future use of ICTs in the areas of:

- Establishing and managing databases – farmer, clients
- Databank – database synchronizing
- Loan management
- Communication - Information flow to public – e.g. build and strengthen capacity of CSOs to take part in national development
- Archiving of information
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)/Global Positioning Systems (GPS) as decision making tools
- Digitizing – equipment needs digitizer and training in use
- Website development and management
- Formal / structured question and answer services
- To assist with public awareness campaigns
- Presentations at training seminars, workshops, etc – use of computers and LCD projectors etc.
- Crop scheduling and forecasting
- Research
- Library automation
- Networking.

59. An assessment of the current and future use of ICTs by these organisations demonstrates the limited capacities of the organisations, particularly with respect to equipment and technologies required to implement work programmes. The effective implementation of both the current and future programmes of these organizations will require significant resources and the strengthening of institutional capacity to access and manage information. Physical, financial and human resource constraints have been identified as the major factors hampering adequate information management and the use of ICT in this regard, in these key institutions and there is need therefore, for capacity building efforts to seek to overcome these constraints.

Equipment Needs

60. There is need for conventional tools and equipment, as well as specialized equipment to effectively manage information and communication activities for the wide range of programmes currently being undertaken by the institutions, as well as for future programmes.
61. Basic computer hardware and software are critical physical resources needed to improve access to information and facilitate easy communication; the management of records and

files for easy retrieval, and analysis of information have been recognized as a precursor for decision-making. Audio visual equipment for production of material for the electronic media, including equipment such laptops and LCD projectors for effective delivery of presentations are also required. Specific needs in this regard were expressed by the DOA, SCHS and the Department of Gender affairs. Local Area Networks (LAN) for networking of computers within and across departments and even across institutions (primarily in the public sector) is also a critical need for strengthening institutional capacity to access information. Equipment to facilitate the use of advanced decision-making tools such as GPS and GIS will be required to address future needs, particularly for planning with regard to land use as indicated in the capacity building needs of the SSMC and the DOA.

Human Resource Needs

62. All of the institutions interviewed have limited manpower to undertake the full extent of the institutions' work programmes. Furthermore, as it relates to information and communications management, all have few staff available and skilled to undertake this primary function.
63. Most institutions will require additional human resources to effectively manage information and communication resources. As indicated in Section 2, most institutions did not have an individual or even a department, dedicated to information management. This task is generally spread among the duties of an already small number of staff with taxing work programmes and schedules, and in most instances ill-equipped with the skills necessary to carry out the increasingly demanding information and communication tasks. Most of the staff allocated to these areas are generally unfamiliar with the standard requirements for library or documentation facilities, have little training or knowledge of how to use information and communication resources effectively and how to produce effective communications materials or use communication media effectively. With such limited information and communications literacy it is quite difficult for decision-makers to identify and fulfil their information needs in terms of determining and accessing the type of information and communication resources required to advance agricultural and rural development objectives.
64. Key human resource development and training needs identified by the key institutions to assist in this regard are as follows:
 - Basic computer skills
 - Information management - strengthening systems for documentation and management of printed and electronic information with application of ICTs
 - Communications – technologies and strategies
 - Accounting and financial management
 - Project management
 - Website development and management
 - Database development for products (established and potential)
 - Microsoft Power Point and other information presentation skills.
65. Specific training areas identified by the institutions which would facilitate more effective information and communications management are outlined in include:

Table 3. Specific Training Areas Identified by Key Institutions in the Agricultural Sector

Organisation/Institution	Training Needs
<i>St. Christopher Heritage Society (SCHS)</i>	Cataloguing, Photo digitizing;
<i>Foundation for National Development (FND)</i>	Financial and credit management;
<i>Farmer Development and Marketing Commercial Enterprise (FAMDECO)</i>	Grading, grading, packaging, post harvest and pesticide handling;
<i>Small Enterprise Development Unit (SEDU)</i>	ICM, Investment management;
<i>Department of Fisheries, MAFCLH</i>	New fishing technologies, resource estimation techniques;
<i>Nevis Public Library Service (NPLS)</i>	Library information management, attachments for library staff;
<i>Department of Cooperatives</i>	Project proposal writing, training in leadership, investments, Entrepreneurship, Project monitoring and management;
<i>Development Bank of St. Kitts & Nevis (DBSKN)</i>	Financial and credit management;
<i>Nevis National Historical and Conservation Society(NHCS)</i>	Group dynamics to facilitate performance of working communities;
<i>St. Kitts Sugar Manufacturers Corporation (SSMC)</i>	GPS\GIS training, Re-tooling for global changes, training in demographics;
<i>Central Marketing Corporation (CEMACO)</i>	Training in Customer Service, Quality assurance, Accounting;
<i>Department of Agriculture- MAFCLH</i>	Human resource development, Techniques in audio visual production, Networking of computers within the department, financial management;
<i>Department of Gender Affairs</i>	Gender issues;
<i>Producer Groups: (St Kitts Floral Arrangers, St. Kitts Horticultural Society, Flora hortica, Quality Pineapple Association, St. Kitts Farmers Cooperative Society, Progressive Pig Farmers Association</i>	New production techniques, Post harvest handling, Information management;

66. Other areas for training and human resource development not specifically identified by institutions but deduced from the needs identified during interviews include:
- General research techniques;
 - Marketing and promotion;
 - Food handling and safety standards, e.g. HACCP;
 - Irrigation management;
 - Fertigation operations
 - Extension techniques incorporating ICTs;
 - Advocacy, economic and trade literacy to assist in identification of appropriate material.
67. In addition, strengthening of the institutional capacity to access information will require the development of traditional information sources such as libraries, documentation facilities and new sources electronic databases, information networks for application in programme implementation of institutions.
68. Perhaps one of the most critical capacity building needs identified by the study is in the area of organizational development of producer organisations with respect to the capacity to manage their information needs and resources, as the current organizational structures of these associations are sadly deficient. A lack of access to information, coupled with poor management of these information resources and poor communication systems are

major factors that hamper the realization of the strategic development objectives of this group. There is need therefore, to develop information and communication capacity for decision-making within these associations, underpinned by research, a capacity for analysis and synthesis and effective communication with members.

Information and Communications Policy and Strategy

69. There is also a general lack of understanding within institutions as to what is required as a minimum, for an effective and credible information and communication service. Most institutions view information and communication services in the context of a library or publications/communication unit with capacity for regular radio and television programmes for dissemination of information.
70. There is need therefore, for the promulgation and implementation of information management policies and strategies at both the national and institutional levels, to facilitate strategic data and information collection and communication to foster and guide decision-making at all levels in the sector.

4. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Conclusions

4.1.1 Extent of 'Key Problems' in the Field

71. The extent of key problems observed among the institutions visited is compared below with those previously identified by each of the three CTA operational departments.

Information Products and Services

72. *Limited availability of publications that support decision-making in the agricultural sector:* While all the institutions interviewed indicated that printed publications were their primary source of information, it was noted that publications with information relevant to their needs were not widely available. All of the nineteen institutions interviewed had difficulty accessing various types of information considered critical to support decision-making and implement programmes in the agricultural sector, (i.e. technical, socio-economic and marketing data, trade regulations and agreements, etc.). Information is not always readily available or takes time to access, and there is limited adaptation or conversion of this information for knowledge transfer. Of particular concern was the limited availability of relevant CTA publications.
73. *Shortage of relevant published information on agriculture and rural development because of weak local publishing infrastructure:* The concern of the organisations with respect to the relevance and applicability of available information, points to a general shortage of published information on the local and regional agriculture and rural development. The local structure to enable documenting and publishing of local information and knowledge is still quite weak, with the few publications compiled by local institutions such as SCHS having a secondary link to agriculture and rural issues. Further, there is no culture of publishing among local professionals and experts in the sector, so information and knowledge emanating at the local level tends to remain unpublished and often times unknown. In addition, with the exception of the SCHS, the organisations have few or no links to universities and research agencies, thus limiting the opportunities for integration into a formal publishing network.
74. *Limited access to locally and externally published information on agriculture and rural development, due to weak distribution structure:* The assessment of capacity of the various institutions interviewed, highlighted a lack of an organised structure and established mechanisms within and among institutions for distribution of information on agriculture and rural development. The limited use of both conventional (print media, audio visuals) and new communications (electronic media, networking, etc.) technology within these institutions tends to constrain access to both locally and externally published information. All of the institutions indicated having problems with accessing information. The absence of an organized structure for information distribution means that persons and agencies also remain largely unaware of existing local and external sources of information and the types of products and services available, contributing further to their inability to access same.
75. *Limited awareness of the existing local and external sources of information and the type of products and services available:* The seeming unavailability of relevant information

appeared to be largely related to a limited awareness by institutions of the types and range of products and services available and the information sources. For example only six (6) of the nineteen organisations interviewed, namely, DOA, St. Kitts Floral Arrangers, Department of Fisheries – St Kitts, Nevis Public Library and Nevis Growers Cooperatives and St. Kitts Farmers Cooperative Society, indicated awareness of CTA activities, and of these, only the DOA appeared to have knowledge of the broad range of CTA's products and services, with the knowledge of the others limited to the SPORE magazine, general CTA publications, and CTA seminars and training programmes.

Communication Channels and Services

76. *Limited contacts among stakeholders in the sector and between the latter and experts from other countries and region:* All of the institutions interviewed indicated that they utilized information services from both local and external information sources, demonstrating a reasonable level of contact among stakeholders in the local sector as well as between local institutions and external information sources. Collaboration at the local level was generally limited to associations with the DOA; however, there appeared to be a very high degree of collaboration between local institutions, and regional and international organisations, for the implementation of joint programmes and funding. One observed shortcoming however, was the limited interface with experts in universities and research agencies which is likely to limit access to sources for new and updated agricultural research information.
77. *Weak networking services, such as newsletters, websites, etc.:* Despite a heightened awareness of opportunities for networking using a combination of conventional and new channels, e.g. electronic services, networking services at the local, regional and international levels is still largely underdeveloped. This may be largely due to the limited access by most of the institutions to Internet services such as websites and electronic discussion groups, which appears to be the fastest growing service for networking in the OECS at present.
78. *Limited first-hand experience of pertinent developments in other countries and regions:* The absence of established mechanisms for networking among stakeholders and other external experts, limits the extent of information exchange among the same. Information exchange is thus largely limited to exchanges between technical staff in local institutions and experts in regional institutions operating at the local level. As indicated, only three of the institutions, DOA, SCHS and Nevis Public library service have some form of contacts or links with experts in external institutions such as universities, research institutions, which are primary repositories of agricultural information and knowledge. This suggests that more than 80% of organisations still have limited opportunities for communication and sharing of first-hand experience of pertinent developments in other countries and regions.
79. *Limited use of ICTs for networking and dialogue:* In addition to the standard use of ICTs such as fax and phone in communication/dialogue, all of the institutions interviewed actively utilized ICTs for some form of networking indicating a growing use of new channels and services such as e-mail, the Web, Internet services, satellite broadcasts for voice, video and data communications, regional databases etc, for networking and dialogue.
80. *Failure to take full advantage of opportunities for using radio, TV, and other non-print media in communicating agricultural information and knowledge:* Most of the organisations interviewed have not ventured far beyond the use of the conventional communication channels and services, of print media (posters, leaflets, etc.) for communicating agricultural information knowledge, and are yet to take full advantage of

radio, TV and other non-print media such as satellite broadcasts for voice, video and data communications for communicating agricultural information and transferring knowledge.

ICM Skills and Systems

81. *Lack of expertise in the area of information and communication management (ICM) skills:* As indicated in Section 2.2 of the report, all the organisations interviewed have limited capacity and skills to effectively manage information and communication in order to plan and execute their programmes. Most institutions will require additional human resources to effectively manage information and communication resources. In addition, most of the staff with responsibility for ICM in these organisations have low information and communication literacy and are therefore unable to effectively manage information and communication in order to plan and execute their programmes. Further, the staff responsible for ICM in these organisations lack the capacity and skills to design and implement information and communication strategies to acquire the types of information and communication management systems required for critical decision-making in the sector.
82. *Limited opportunities to acquire relevant ICT skills:* The organisations in the sector, more so the emerging stakeholders such as SCHS, Department of Fisheries and some grower/producer organisations are only now beginning to develop an appreciation of the need for developing ICT and ICM skills. Avenues for skills development are however, still quite limited, hence the requests by several of the institutions for training and information on sources of funding for training, with respect to acquiring those skills.
83. *Weak ICM policies and strategies:* The current situation of severe deficiencies in information and communication resources and capacities for management of these resources is no doubt a result of an absence of, or weak or inappropriate policies and strategies in that regard. Consequently, ICM is not viewed as a priority area in most institutions in the sector and few, if any, resources are allocated to the development of adequate systems and skills.
84. *Limited knowledge of the design of cost-effective and participatory ICM systems:* Adequate systems to promote participatory information and communications management are lacking, and there is limited knowledge and expertise at the local level for designing the type of systems that are cost-effective and which take into account the budgetary and financial constraints of institutions in the sector. It is however envisaged that the adoption of participatory ICM systems will pose a challenge, particularly with respect to the conversion of conventional information products and services into electronic form to take advantage of new technologies, as equipment required to do so (e.g. digitizers, scanners, etc.) is not readily available within most institutions.
85. *Limited management techniques for the implementation of ICM products and service:* The general lack of appreciation within the organisations of minimum requirements for an effective and credible information and communication service, coupled with a lack of ICM skills, signifies that management techniques required for, identifying, acquiring, analysing and generating agricultural information to directly match information needs are still lacking.
86. *Weak Science, Technology and Innovation (ST&I) policies:* No information on the status of science, technology and innovation policies and strategies was gleaned during the interviews, but given the new focus on ICTs within the national development framework, it is deduced that these are either being initiated or are still non-existent.

4.1.2 Information Needs

87. In conclusion, priority information needs of institutions in the agricultural and rural sector in St Kitts and Nevis at present and over the next 5 years are based on addressing issues related to the commercialization of production, increased market access and progressive integration of small producers into the global economy. The main types of information and data required by the various institutions to execute the work programmes are technical and socio-economic information. This information will serve to address the issues of food production, processing, marketing, nutritional quality and safety for commercialization of the sector to facilitate integration of small producers into the larger regional and global economies; as they relate to food security; rural development, and the sustainable use and development of the country's natural resources of land and water, including marine resources.
88. The critical information needs for the execution of programmes within the institutions interviewed though quite diverse can be summarised under at least one of the following priority thematic areas, namely: potential funding sources; information on training opportunities; trade and marketing - including new trade issues and regulations; and information to assist in the identification and sourcing of affordable information on appropriate technologies and equipment for production and processing. Information must at the least be adapted for local use, in order to make it relevant and appropriate to the needs of the ultimate beneficiaries, the producers. Issues of literacy, gender, educational and cultural factors must also be considered when packaging information. The need for more audio-visual packaging was strongly advised by the producer groups, given the low affinity for reading observed in the population. Most organisations had a preference for information in a summarised format. Organisations such as the DOA, SSMC, SCHS and NHCS, which tend to serve as repositories for information, however, preferred more comprehensive formats such as journals, scientific papers, full reports, etc.

4.1.3 Capacity building Needs

89. In response to the information needs identified by the study, all the institutions interviewed will require additional and/or trained human resources and will need to build physical and human resource capacity to effectively manage information and communications resources in the following areas:
- Information management – application of information technologies;
 - Communication – development and application of appropriate technologies and strategies;
 - Participatory and information-based policy formulation, planning and evaluation;
 - Organizational management;
 - Networking – establishment and management of knowledge-based networks at international, regional and national levels.
90. Information and communication solutions for meeting the needs of the primary beneficiaries in the sector, however, may not be too difficult. However, the current institutional framework will need to be strengthened to ensure that existing and emerging stakeholders can directly interface with the producer and ultimate beneficiaries of the agricultural and rural development. This would require that capacities within the organisations of both the existing, but more so the emerging stakeholders comprising NGOs and other private sector service providers, be developed so as to effectively source and disseminate information utilizing the new and existing information sources and tools.
91. The capacity building effort must therefore, seek to overcome the physical, financial and human resource constraints, which make it difficult for organizations to avail themselves

of the resources (at least the basic tools and equipment) required to access and communicate information.

4.1.4 Potential Partners and Beneficiaries

92. As indicated in section 3.1 of the report, producers and other stakeholders in the sector are beginning to seek and expect information directly from institutions that provide them with services, as this supplements the other support services provided by the institutions in areas such as business development (SEDU), financing (FND), marketing (CEMACO/FAMDECO), producer associations (NGC, St Kitts Farmers Cooperative), among others. These institutions can and should play an important role of in the future development of sector, but would need to develop the requisite expertise for managing information and effectively communicating information and knowledge to the primary beneficiaries.
93. In keeping therefore, with CTA's objective to diversify and develop partners and based on CTA's criteria³ for selecting partners, the following organisations are considered the most suitable for pursuing CTA partnering initiatives in St. Kitts and Nevis: CEMACO, SEDU, SCHS and the Department of Fisheries – St Kitts. These four organisations meet all the partnership criteria outlined by CTA; however, CEMACO may need to be further strengthened with regard to capability to provide a parallel contribution to joint ventures. However, new modalities for CTA's targeting of beneficiaries in the agricultural and rural sector of St. Kitts and Nevis must now be centred on those organisations that are becoming more closely aligned to the primary beneficiaries in the sector including the organisations such as FAMDECO, NHCS, FND, Department of Gender Affairs and all the fledgling producer associations – NGC, St. Kitts Farmers Cooperative, Quality Pineapple Growers Association, St. Kitts Floral Arrangers/Flora hortica and the Progressive Pig Farmers Association. These entities are capable of providing a conduit for directly impacting the ultimate beneficiaries of farmers, women and youth. The DOA in the MAFCLH (St Kitts) will need to be targeted beneficiaries for CTA support, as they will continue to be key information sources to the sector.
94. The above arrangement will also allow CTA to address strategic issues of geographical coverage, decentralisation and regionalisation and thematic orientation, the latter being realized largely through the specificity of the organisations' needs and their target beneficiaries.

4.2 Recommendations

95. The main recommendations emanating from the study, based on the objectives of the study as well as the conclusions outlined in Section 4.1 are outlined in this section. Given the extent and diverse needs of the stakeholders in the agricultural and rural sector of St Kitts and Nevis, It will not be possible, given the current human, physical and financial constraints, to meet all the information needs of stakeholders within any reasonable time frame. Therefore, information services to be provided to the sector must be prioritized within the framework of national goals, agricultural sector policy, needs of stakeholders and available resources. The following recommendations for addressing the information needs, capacity building needs and the selection of potential partners and beneficiaries in St. Kitts and Nevis are however proposed, after due consideration of the objectives of this study and the scope of functions of the operational departments of the CTA:

³ Criteria for selecting **partners** – CTA Draft Programme of Activities 2005, pg 3

4.2.1 Information Needs

96. CTA should assist the local organisations in improving accessibility to publications and other information by extending the distribution of its products and services to include the partners and beneficiaries identified in the study. One specific area in which this could be achieved is by including the potential partners identified in this study as new QAS users. CTA should reinforce the use of its QAS in existing operational nodes and centres should be encouraged to work closely with NGOs and the other organizations that work closely with farmers/producers such as CEMACO, FAMDECO, NGC, SEDU and the Department of Fisheries in developing special information packages for the producers/fishers.
97. Most of the organizations interviewed were not aware of CTA's programmes or familiar with CTA's products and services. Given the strategic objective of the CTA to improve awareness of information services on agricultural and rural development, several interventions will be required aimed at increasing knowledge of and hence access to CTA information services. These will include increasing the number and range of stakeholders participating in the various services such as QAS and other information portals to include new actors such as CEMACO, SEDU and NGC; use of SDI to organisations needing research support such as SSMC, and organisations such as the MAFCLH for onward dissemination to policy makers. CTA should work in conjunction with these key organisations to develop special information packages for farmers and fishers, and to develop an appropriate mix of communications media tools involving the integration of ICTs and conventional media to improve dialogue and exchange for new actors, particularly within and among producer organizations such as St. Kitts Farmers Cooperative, NGC and Floral Arrangers/Flora hortica, etc.
98. CTA should lend support for the development of national public awareness programmes to be undertaken by local organisations, aimed at developing the local capacity to engender an information culture and an appreciation for the value of information.

4.2.2 Capacity building Needs

99. The key organisations identified by the study, will need to be assisted to develop local and national networks to increase exchanges of experience and other business networking (e-commerce) among the actors and stakeholders. This should take into account the introduction of new communications and networking technologies, particularly the use of non-print media and electronic networking such, web sites, electronic discussion groups, etc. for communicating agricultural information and knowledge. CTA could facilitate the extension of these networks on international and regional scale, preferably on a thematic basis – priority information areas with a commodity focus – for example i.e. networks for production – for agri-products such as pineapple, flowers, pigs, etc; marketing; trade and policy; management – farm, business and organisation; rural development, and assist in the expansion of a network of contacts among stakeholders and between the latter and experts from other countries and regions.
100. CTA should provide resources (equipment and/or skills) to assist in strengthening the local distribution infrastructure – that is for the establishment of networks, LAN, inter-ministerial and wider regional and international networks to improve access to externally published information on agriculture and rural development. The Centre could also assist local organisations in the sourcing funding for acquiring the type of equipment needed to improve access to electronic publications and multi-media.
101. CTA should assist in the creation and management of databases in select public and private sector institutions, such as the MACFLH, CEMACO/FAMDECO and Department

of Fisheries-St. Kitts, based on standardized formats for agricultural information management to facilitate the generation of agricultural statistics and encourage information exchange across organisations for enlightened decision-making in the sector. Technical assistance will be required to design and build an agricultural database in a standard format to facilitate dissemination of this information to the various stakeholders in the sector.

102. There is need to initiate the participatory development and implementation of information and communication management policies and strategies to promote the use of information products and services at all levels in the sector. CTA could provide support through its existing Caribbean regional agricultural policy network, which however, may need to be further strengthened.
103. CTA should assist in developing the capabilities of stakeholders/actors such as SEDU and other organizations working directly with farmers, such as CEMACO/FAMDECO, producer organisations, to take advantage of existing e-distribution channels. Capacity development to utilize e-discussion fora is recommended to improve dialogue and allow for the communication of first-hand experience of pertinent developments in other countries and regions to assist in decision-making. Specific support could be extended to the SEDU in its endeavour to establish a national information and documentation centre in support of small enterprise to assist in creating a business information network to enable entrepreneurs to have easy access to needed data and information for effective functioning.
104. The needs identified are concerned with both the increasing use of conventional tools and the adoption of new tools for integrating new media, in particular electronic media. The strengthening of institutional capacity with respect to necessary skills, resources and information is paramount therefore, for opening up the possibilities and the use of both conventional and new information and communications technologies. Stakeholders at all levels in the sector will require skills training in several areas, principal of which is the area of ICM skills. CTA could assist in facilitating training for the acquisition of requisite skills by stakeholders to become effective information managers; areas of focus include skills for undertaking information needs analysis, formulating communication strategies, implementing communication activities including the selection of appropriate communication tools and technologies, moderating and managing networks. Training in management techniques for the implementation of ICM products and services should also be provided.
105. The development of guidelines for the use of communications tools, including an outline of the various tools available and capabilities to assist information and communication managers, is another area in which CTA could provide technical assistance to the local sector. This should also include strengthening of the local publishing structure to facilitate the compilation and/or publication of relevant local information and knowledge. CTA could assist in mobilising resources to provide technical assistance to catalyse a publishing framework, the necessary equipment and materials required for publishing, as well as for the reproduction of published information. Technical assistance may be required to support initial compilation, given the lack of a culture for information
106. Given the ongoing changes in the roles of stakeholders in the agricultural and rural sector of St. Kitts and Nevis, it is imperative that stakeholders recognize and address the need for effective communication. Public and private sector organisations in the agricultural and rural sector should therefore, undertake public awareness programmes aimed at developing the local capacity to engender an information culture and an

appreciation for the value of information in achieving strategic goals. CTA could also provide assistance to catalyse such an initiative.

107. The creation of training opportunities for acquiring the relevant ICT and ICM skills must be championed by the emerging stakeholders and actors who at least have a basic appreciation of the value of information services. These stakeholders/actors in the sector should take strategic action to create opportunities for persons to acquire these skills, by seeking to develop mechanisms for accessing training or capacity building opportunities. These could include partnering, co-funding, understudy of consultants sent on local attachments, etc.
108. The Government of the St Kitts and Nevis should move quickly to develop and implement a national ICM policy and strategy, to promote and encourage the development and implementation of ICM policies and strategies at the ministerial and all other levels. The development of a strategic approach is required to address the current lack of a coordinated approach to development among the stakeholders in the sector to increase opportunities for realizing the synergies that could be derived from information networking and collaborative programming. As a result, ICM may begin to be treated as priority area within the institutions in the sector and adequate resources will be allocated to the development of systems and skills. This will further enable information services providers to tailor these services to meet the current and emerging needs of the end users.
109. CTA could provide support for the development of programmes for stakeholders to improve their ability to formulate and implement information and communication policies. Programmes should be aimed at all stakeholders – public and private sector, including policy makers, service providers and producer associations. The primary focus must however be on the emerging stakeholders, in particular the local service providers who play a key supporting role in communicating and channelling information to primary beneficiaries, such as producers, women and youth.
110. Technical assistance (TA) for the design of cost-effective and participatory ICM systems should be provided to select institutions in the short term, while counterpart training is pursued for development of local knowledge and expertise. CTA could provide support in the area of TA for development of ICM structures and centres.
111. Similarly, TA for the application of appropriate management techniques for the implementation of ICM products and services should be provided in the short term, with a medium to long term measure of training for developing local capacity.

4.2.3 Potential Partners and Beneficiaries

112. The following organisations are recommended for CTA partnering initiatives at the national level in St Kitts and Nevis: CEMACO, SEDU, SCHS and the Department of Fisheries – St Kitts as these organisations meet all the partnership criteria outlined by CTA; some strengthening of CEMACO may be required. Further, these organisations undertake information servicing of many of the other organisations interviewed in this study. The remaining organisations assessed during the study, namely, FAMDECO, NHCS, FND, Department of Gender Affairs and all the fledgling producer associations – NGC, St. Kitts Farmers Cooperative, Quality Pineapple Growers Association, St. Kitts Floral Arrangers/Flora hortica and the Progressive Pig Farmers Association, all meet the criteria for potential CTA beneficiaries, as they are capable of providing a conduit for information servicing of the ultimate beneficiaries of farmers, women and youth. The DOA in the MACFLH of St. Kitts is also recommended as a potential beneficiary as it is expected to continue as a prime information resource to the ultimate beneficiaries in the sector.

ANNEXES

ANNEX I. TERMS OF REFERENCE

ASSESSMENT OF AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION NEEDS IN AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN & PACIFIC (ACP) STATES Phase 1: Caribbean, Country Studies: Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Kitts & Nevis and St. Vincent & the Grenadines

1. Introduction

The Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) was established in 1983 under the Lomé Convention between the ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific) Group of States and the European Union Member States. Since 2000, it has operated within the framework of the ACP-EC Cotonou Agreement.

CTA's tasks are to develop and provide services that improve access to information for agricultural and rural development, and to strengthen the capacity of ACP countries to produce, acquire, exchange and utilise information in this area. CTA's programmes are organised around three principal activities: providing an increasing range and quantity of information products and services and enhancing awareness of relevant information sources; supporting the integrated use of appropriate communication channels and intensifying contacts and information exchange (particularly intra-ACP); and developing ACP capacity to generate and manage agricultural information and to formulate information and communication management (ICM) strategies, including those relevant to science and technology. These activities take account of methodological developments in cross-cutting issues (gender, youth, information & communication technologies – ICTs, and social capital), findings from impact assessments and evaluations of ongoing programmes as well as priority information themes for ACP agriculture⁴.

In January 2002, CTA's Strategic Plan (2001-2005) was implemented and CTA's activities were distributed among three operational programme areas / departments:

- Information Products and Services
- Communication Channels and Services
- Information and Communication Management Skills and Systems

These operational departments are supported by Planning Corporate Services (P&CS) which is charged with the methodological underpinning of their work and monitoring the ACP environment in order to identify emerging issues and trends and make proposals for their translation into programmes and activities. This current exercise, therefore, falls within the mandate of P&CS.

2. Background

A comprehensive regional information needs assessment was undertaken in the Caribbean region, by CTA and the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI), over the period 1995-1997. This study detailed the information needs, habits and priorities, of eleven sub-groups of users relevant to the agricultural and rural development sector, presented in sixteen national reports and a regional overview. The results of the studies were followed by a series of national consultations, missions and regional meetings, as well as pilot studies in information and communications management all aimed at arriving at

⁴ Priority information themes for ACP agriculture have formed the basis of various several studies, workshops and seminars bringing together various stakeholders, organisations and institutions active in the field of agriculture and rural development. The documents (or extracts thereof) will be provided to the consultants.

or designing a strategy to meet information needs within the sector. The strategy proposed the development of a Caribbean Agricultural Information Service (CAIS) with a two pronged approach to improving access to information within the Caribbean region:

- Working with institutions at the national level to improve capacity in various aspects of information and communication management (e.g. network development, training, sensitisation).
- Developing information products and services to meet specific information needs identified.

The CAIS strategy has been implemented since 2001. A number of capacity building exercises were executed including workshops and training courses; provision of technical assistance; network development, policies and systems. Since the implementation of this strategy in 2001, there have also been a number of changes within institutions in the region with respect to their awareness and use of information and communications tools and technologies.

2. Main issues

CTA works primarily through intermediary organisations and partners (non-governmental organisations, farmers' organisations, regional organisations, ...) to promote agriculture and rural development. Through partnerships, CTA hopes to increase the number of ACP organisations capable of generating and managing information and developing their own information and communication management strategies. The identification of appropriate partners is therefore of primordial importance.

The "Evaluation of the Implementation of the Mid-Term Plan (1997 – 2000)" emphasised the need for CTA to develop a more pro-active approach and elaborate criteria for decision-making with regard to the choice of partner organisations and beneficiaries. Based on this evaluation, the "Strategic Plan and Framework for Action – 2001 – 2005" identifies strategic issues for CTA being: improved targeting (including partnerships and beneficiaries), geographical coverage, decentralisation, regionalisation and thematic orientation. The Plan also expresses concern about: the extent to which CTA's activities are relevant to and reach the poor, gender awareness and how to identify potential partners especially in the independent sectors.

Besides partner identification and selection issues, the observation has also been made that, the Caribbean region could benefit further from CTA's programme and activities.

Finally, various national and regional partners with whom CTA has had a long-standing relationship have requested the current study which would serve to update the earlier studies done and allow them to provide more targeted assistance to their beneficiaries.

3. Objectives and scope of the study

The objectives of the study are as follows:

- to identify agricultural information needs of key actors / beneficiaries for CTA products and services;
- to identify needs of potential actors / beneficiaries of CTA activities and services in terms of building capacity for information and communication management;
- to identify potential partners / beneficiaries for CTA activities and services;
- to develop some baseline data to facilitate subsequent monitoring activities.

The study should assist the three operational departments of the CTA as well as its local representatives to improve and better target interventions and activities aimed at potential partners and beneficiaries (including women, youth, private sector and civil society

organisations); to have a more informed picture of their needs and aid in the elaboration of a strategy and framework of action. The study should also highlight where there are specific needs for CTA's products and services thereby enabling improvement in the delivery of the same.

4. Methodology

The consultant will use a combination of qualitative and quantitative rapid appraisal methods including:

- the desk review of available literature and information sources including the findings of programme evaluations;
- the conduct of face-to-face interviews with relevant stakeholders / concerned parties;
- the limited use of questionnaires.

The rapid appraisal approach will allow a general overview of the key issues and company / organisational profiles on a per country⁵ basis and may give rise to more in-depth studies as and when needed in the future.

5. Expected outcomes / output

One main report per country not exceeding 20 pages according to the following table of contents:

Main report

1. Executive summary
2. Introduction
3. Country profile – summary structure and economic characteristics with particular attention to agricultural sector (includes fisheries and forestry):
 - Summary of how agriculture, fisheries and forestry is organised in the country
 - Summary of the information and communication management capacity
 - The current source of agricultural information and services (synthesise Annex 3)
4. Needs analysis
 - Information needs
 - Capacity building needs (skills, training, media, ICT, equipment)
5. Conclusions and recommendations
6. References

Annexes

1. *Terms of reference*
2. *Country profile*
 - 2.1 General agricultural profile (from available documentation)
 - Size of agricultural population (male / female / youth)
 - Farmed land, forests, fishing areas
 - Agricultural systems

⁵ Out of 16 countries comprising the Caribbean ACP, only selected number will initially be the subject of studies, with domestic consultants conducting country-specific assessments. Country selection will be done by CTA on the basis of specific criteria.

- Agriculture in the economy (percentage GDP)
- Main agricultural produce and secondary products
- Main export markets
- Trade agreements that include agriculture
- Sectoral policy related to agriculture, fisheries and forests

2.2 Socio-economic profile (from available documentation)

- Total active population, demographic breakdown
- Literacy level and languages
- Access to services (health, schools, electricity)
- Rural urban drift

2.3 Media and telecommunications (update / check)

- Newspapers, periodicals, magazines, radio stations, television channels,
- Telecommunication services (fixed, mobile, etc.)
- Computers and Internet access

3. *Profile of institutions*

- List of all institutions involved in agriculture and rural development activities, including private sector and civil society organisations, with name, contact details, type and role of institution
- Select list of key institutions involved in agriculture and rural development, with extensive data and information on the institution, the problems faced and why it is considered a key actor

It is also expected that the results of this study will lead to identification / update of some priority agricultural information themes which will feed into a possible priority-setting exercise in the region in 2004.

6. Reporting

The country reports will not exceed 20 pages (excluding annexes). The annexes should include a list of acronyms, of persons/institutions interviewed with addresses, phone, fax numbers, e-mail addresses (if any) as well as bibliography.

7. Timing

- Draft final report is to be submitted within three months after contract signature by CTA
- Final report due two weeks after receipt of comments from CTA.

8. Expertise

Consultant	Country
Mrs. Roberta Williams & Mrs. Sue Evan Wong	Antigua & Barbuda
Mr. Kelvin Craig	Guyana
Mrs. Luvette Thomas-Louisy	Dominica, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines
Mr. Steve Maximay	Trinidad & Tobago
Mr. Ricardo van Ravenswaay	Suriname
Mrs. Barbara Gumbs	Regional Coordinator, Overview report

The expert should have a university degree or equivalent by experience. In addition, he/she should have at least 10 years experience in field of agriculture, rural development or social / economic sciences. He/she must have in-depth knowledge of the agricultural sector in his/her country and be able to identify key players and institutions / organisations active in this area. The ability to communicate and write clearly in English is essential, while knowledge of at

least one of the local languages for communication / interview purposes is an added advantage.

The overall coordination will be carried out by Ms Christine Webster, Deputy Head, Planning and Corporate Services CTA, assisted by Mrs Lola Visser-Mabogunje, Project Assistant.

9. Implementation schedule (CTA)

- Preparation/Finalisation of ToR; Identification/ short-listing of (potential) consultants; Call for offers: February – October 2004
- Selection of consultants & contractual arrangements: October 2004
- Briefing: 3 – 4 November 2004
- Start date of contract: 2 November 2004
- Implementation period: 3 November – 1 May 2005
- End date of contract: 1 May 2005

10. Key documents to be made available to consultants

Documents include:

- Cotonou Framework Agreement
- Excerpts of relevant sections of CTA's Strategic Plan and Plan of Action (2001-2005)
- Annual Reports
- Documents on priority information themes identified for the Caribbean region
- Documents on products & services provided by CTA
- Information Needs Relevant Country and Regional Reports 1997
- CAIS Stakeholders Meeting Reports

11. Role of Regional Coordinator

- Respect the timeframe as specified in Annex IV (regarding submission of reports)
- Help identify and vet country consultants
- Attend briefing meeting in Trinidad
- Review the terms of reference
- Finalise questionnaires and methodological approach after due consultation with CTA Team
- Draw up briefing notes and guidelines for local consultants to ensure accurate and consistent application of the agreed methodology in data collection
- Answer queries (technical & otherwise) of local consultants
- During the studies, monitor and provide technical assistance to the local consultants
- Review preliminary country reports and findings and send comments back to local consultants
- Coordinate and ensure consistency of country reports
- Prepare the overall report taking into account the findings and recommendations of all the Caribbean country reports (table of contents to be agreed).

12. Role of Local Consultants

- Respect all the timeframe as specified in Annex IV (regarding submission of reports)
- Attend briefing meeting in Trinidad
- Familiarise themselves with background documents received from CTA; including the Terms of Reference
- Undertake desk study and prepare country profile, list of institutions involved in agriculture as well as preliminary list of select institutions.
- Undertake field visits in country specified in the contract
- Conduct interviews and gather information in country specified in the contract

- Draft preliminary country reports and send to Regional Coordinator for initial comments
- Based on comments received from Coordinator, revise country reports and send draft final report to CTA within the specified timeframe
- Finalise country reports based on comments and observations received from CTA and send final report back to CTA

13. Role of CARDI

- Assist in the identification and vetting of Local Consultants
- Provide input and feedback for the Terms of Reference
- Make all the logistical arrangements (flights, hotel, venue of meeting, etc) for the briefing session
- Participate in the pre/briefing sessions (in Trinidad)
- Provide backstopping for the Regional Coordinator
- Liaise with CARDI and Regional Coordinator throughout the study
- On receipt of the draft and final reports give comments and observations to the Regional Coordinator with copy directly to CTA

14 Role of CTA

- Draw up initial Terms of Reference and prepare relevant background documents
- Appoint the Regional Coordinator and the ACP Local Consultants
- Attend briefing meeting of consultants in Trinidad
- Liaise with CARDI and Regional Coordinator throughout the study
- Invite the Regional Coordinator and Local Consultants for Briefing Meeting
- Provide input to the Regional Coordinator with regard to fine-tuning terms of reference, questionnaires, interview guide and reporting guidelines for the consultants
- Provide relevant background documents to the Local Consultants & Regional Coordinator
- Elaborate budget and discuss contractual obligations with the Team of consultants & Regional Coordinator
- Pay invoices for services rendered in a timely manner on condition that all payment conditions are fulfilled
- Overall responsibility for the supervision and implementation of the studies
- Bear the agreed costs of expenditure in respect of the study (economy class return tickets to Trinidad, hotel accommodation and subsistence allowances during briefing meeting, or during agreed and specified field visits)
- Provide feedback and comments on draft country reports to the Local Consultants
- Give feedback to the Regional Coordinator on the overall report for the Caribbean.

ANNEX II. COUNTRY PROFILE – SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS



PROFILE

OFFICIAL NAME:

[Saint Kitts and Nevis](#)

conventional long form: Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis

conventional short form: Saint Kitts and Nevis

Geography



World Fact Book, CIA website, last updated 2005

[url:http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/sc.html](http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/sc.html)

Area: 261 sq km (Saint Kitts 168 sq km; Nevis 93 sq km) (100.4 sq. mi.).

Cities: *Capital*—Basseterrre- St Kitts; Charlestown - Nevis.

Terrain: volcanic with mountainous interiors

Climate: tropical tempered by constant sea breezes; little seasonal temperature variation; rainy season (May to November)

People

Nationality: *Noun and adjective*—Kittitian, Nevisian(s).

Population (2004): 38,836.

Annual growth rate (est. 2001): 5.4%.

Ethnic groups: predominantly black; some British, Portuguese, and Lebanese

Religions: Anglican, other Protestant, Roman Catholic.

Languages: English

Education: *Literacy*--97%. *Years compulsory*--ages 5-15.

Health (2000): *Life expectancy*—71.86 yrs – 74.86 years female; 69.03 years male.

Infant mortality rate—14.94/1,000.

Work force: 18,170 (June 1995)

Unemployment (1997) 4.5%

Natural resources: arable land

Economy Overview

St. Kitts, with its relatively large fertile tracts of land and amenable climate and a steady rainfall pattern, was an ideal launching point for seventeenth-century British expansion into the Caribbean island which began with development of the colonial sugar estate. More than 300 years later, the Kittitian economy was still very dependent on sugar; but by the 1970s, government and business leaders realized that a move away from sugar was vital for continued economic growth.

Nevis, unlike its sister island, lacked the richer soils and larger tracts of land available suitable for cultivation of sugar. It was valued, even in colonial times, for its seclusion and beaches rather than for agriculture, and continues to accommodate the growing international tourist market of the late twentieth century. Agriculturally, Nevis has relied heavily on the cultivation of sea island cotton produced primarily for export. This crop, usually planted without rotation, caused a serious soil erosion problem, and a consequent diminishing of the island's potential for further agricultural production for many years to come.

Sugar has been the traditional mainstay of the Saint Kitts economy until the 1970s. Although the crop still dominates the agricultural sector, activities such as tourism, export-oriented manufacturing, and offshore banking have assumed larger roles in the economy. The GDP of SKN is based mostly on services. The biggest contributors to GDP are tourism and manufacturing. These two sectors' contribution to GDP amounted to 10.4 % and 7.9 % respectively in 1999 with tourism becoming the major source of foreign exchange earnings.

In Nevis the services sector is a combination of tourism and offshore financial services while in St. Kitts, it is based on the tourism industry. Exports for the most part have been dominated by sugar, exported to the EU via agreement. The amount of land under sugar is being considerably lessened, with other crops being planted in rotation, but the time of rotation back to sugar is extending. The other crops being grown during rotation are largely for local consumption but export markets are being considered and probed. Tourism revenues are now the chief source of the islands' foreign exchange, however, a decline in stopover tourist arrivals following the 11 September 2001 terrorist attacks has eroded government finances. The opening of a 1,000+ bed Marriott hotel in February 2003 was expected to bring in much-needed revenue.

Over 70% of imports in St Kitts and Nevis are from US territories with processed foods, clothes and machinery/appliances being the biggest classes of imports. Car importation generates large trade deficits. Energy requirements are fulfilled by oil imported from Trinidad.

II.1 General Agricultural Profile

The information outlined in the agricultural profile for St Kitts and Nevis has been compiled largely from documents prepared by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Cooperatives, Lands and Housing (MAFCLH) over the last five years, and other documents prepared in collaboration with other Government Ministries such as the Ministry of Planning, and agencies such as the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA). Most of the agricultural statistical data was obtained from the most recent census data compiled in the Agricultural Digest (2003). Other relevant data were extracted from the Demography Digest (St Kitts and Nevis, (2001) and other online data on the websites of United Nations organizations and the World Bank. Data was further updated with information obtained in interviews with the departments within the MAFCLH and other agencies.

Agriculture has been the mainstay of the economy, based largely on the cultivation of sugar cane on estates for processing into sugar and molasses for export. Despite the changes in fortunes of sugar, the sector's role in the national economy continues to be viewed in the context of the sugar industry or non-sugar agriculture, the latter concerned with food production aimed at achieving import substitution and reduction of the food import bill (EUR 23.03 million in 2003) resulting from imports of over 75% of the country's annual food consumption.

The primary thrust of the sector is to obtain increased agricultural production and productivity to contribute significantly to the development of the country's economy in a sustainable way while preserving the environment and conserving the country's natural resources. Thus the sector is primarily concerned with all aspects of food: its production, processing, marketing, nutritional quality, safety and food security. The sector is also concerned with the sustainable use and development of the country's natural resources of land and water, including marine resources. Apart from sugar production, there appears to be no strong tradition of farming, hence the contribution of non-sugar agriculture to the economy, though showing modest developments over the last decade, has remained nominal. As in the other OECS countries there is an inextricable link between agricultural development and rural development, as most agricultural activity tends to be carried out in rural communities.

Non-sugar agriculture comprises mainly fruits and vegetables, which together with livestock and small-scale fishing are produced in small quantities for domestic consumption. Commercial farming activity is undertaken by about 25 commercial farmers who produce about 75% of the output of food crops. There is little exportation of non-sugar agricultural goods. The value of domestic exports of food and live animals totaled 484,990.76 EUR (EC\$1,522,871.00) for 2002, registering a decline of 17% from the previous year's figures. In the past onions and potatoes were exported from St Kitts, but exports have been virtually curtailed due to pest infestation. Cotton exports from Nevis have also declined in recent times. Opportunities for increasing non-sugar agriculture production in crop and livestock products have since been identified as a means to reduce the current food import bill.

The Ministry of Agriculture identifies the following **constraints** to the sector increasing its contribution to the national economy:

- Small domestic market
- Dependence on the exportation of a narrow range of goods
- Eroding preferences in traditional markets – cessation of preferential arrangements for the exportation of sugar
- Unprofitable state of the sugar industry
- Inadequate water resources for irrigation.
- Inadequately developed marketing systems.
- An increased incidence and severity of tropical storms and hurricanes.
- Ineffective credit and investment programmes and facilities.
- Inadequate technology development, transfer facilities and mechanisms.
- Lack of adequate information and access to data of all types.
- High cost of production.

II.1.1 Size of Agricultural Population (Male / Female / Youth)

Recent statistics from the World Bank estimate a rural population of 68%. Data on the agricultural population was not available. However, inferences were made from data on the number of persons employed by the sector. Agriculture employs a relatively small

proportion, 440 persons, of the total labour force of approximately 17,000. Data from the International Labour Office (ILO) for the Caribbean, are provided for 1991 (ILO, 2004) in table 1. Data on the number or percentage of youth employed in the agricultural sector was not available. These data showed a considerable decline from one-third of the labour force in the 1980's to a mere 2.6% of the labour force in the 1990s. This decline mirrors the decline in the contribution of agriculture to the economy, as indicated in a later section describing its relatively small percentage contribution to GDP (see II.1.4 below).

Table 4. Agricultural Population Distribution

Employed persons by sex and occupation: agriculture, forestry and fishery workers	1991	% of employed population
TOTAL	440	2.6
Male	380	4.1
Female	50	0.7

Source: International Labour Organisation (ILO)
<http://www.ilocarib.org.tt/digest/skn/kit07.html>

Employment statistics in the mid-1980s, although widely regarded as unreliable, reflected the growing importance of the tourist and manufacturing sectors. By 1982 a reported 26% of the work force was associated with trade, hotels, and other services, whereas 22% was employed by the manufacturing sector. The agricultural sector (primarily sugar) still employed one-third of the total work force, and sugar processing was still an important part of the manufacturing sector. Most of the remaining 19% of the labor force worked for the government, and about 5% were employed in the construction industry.

II.1.2 Farmed land, Forests and Fishing Areas

Data from the website CIA World Fact Book on St Kitts and Nevis (2001) indicate 19.44% (34,015 hectares) of the combined island acreage is arable land, with 2.78% covered in permanent crops. The remaining seventy eight percent of land area consist of natural vegetation and other land area in urban use, surface water and exposed rock.

Table 5 provides a summary of the land use pattern in St Kitts and Nevis at 2001.

Table 5. Categories of Land Use in St Kitts and Nevis - 2001

Land Use Type	Category	Area (hectares)	Area (percentage %)
Natural vegetation	forest, scrub forest, mangrove and open woodlands	136,480	78.00
Farming – arable land	Intensive, mixed and eroded land	34,015	19.44

Land Use Type	Category	Area (hectares)	Area (percentage %)
Others	Settlements, Rock and Exposed Soils, Water (Marina and Dam)	4479	2.56
TOTAL		174,974	100.00

Source : World Fact Book, CIA website, last updated 2005

[url:http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/sc.html](http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/sc.html)

Of the estimated 22,000 acres (8,903 ha) of cultivable land area in St Kitts and Nevis, only just over half, about 13,000 acres (5,261 ha) is actually used for agricultural production. Most of the land in St Kitts is state-owned and under the 1991 Land Development Act, long-term leases of agricultural land for about 25-30 years are being approved. Hence the 80% cropped area occupied by sugar cane in the 1980's is fast being progressively reduced. The converse applies in Nevis. Thirty percent (30%) of the land is public-owned and the remainder is under freehold titles and long-term leases. About 5, 500 ha in St Kitts and 1,000 ha in Nevis were cultivated in 1997.

There are more than 100 registered fishing boats in St Kitts and Nevis used by more than 300 active fishers. Most of the fishing is done from small, wooden, open boats ranging in length from 5 to 8 metres, and utilizing outboard motors with horsepower ranging from 25hp to 150 hp.

II.1.3 Agricultural systems

Non-sugar crop production in St Kitts is dominated by small-scale farming with average holdings of less than 1.0 hectare and a few larger farms of holdings that are greater than 5.0 hectares. Vegetables tend to be grown in the higher elevation while peanuts are grown at the lower level. A significant amount of sweet potatoes is grown in fallow sugarcane fields by workers of the SSMC. Vegetable production is mainly rain-fed and this generally results in oversupply during the first two quarters of the year and shortages in the rest of the year. Fruit tree production is not undertaken on a commercial scale. However, a wide range of fruit trees can be found scattered around the island.

Livestock production systems for small and large ruminants are also generally at the subsistence level. Cattle production is dominated by part-time farmers who generally raise a few animals on unimproved pastures. There are a few medium sized farms (50 to 100 heads) and one relatively large farm that operates in an open range system. Pigs have been raised in St. Kitts using a range of production systems, from tethering in the backyard to earthen or concrete floor pens.

Fishing methods are traditional, although some modern techniques have been adopted in recent years.

On Nevis, vegetables and root crops are cultivated on a subsistence basis and some cotton is grown for export. The livestock sector there includes cattle, small ruminants and pigs.

II.1.4 Agriculture in the Economy (percentage GDP)

The agricultural sector of St. Kitts and Nevis contribution to the GDP has declined steadily from an average 17% in the 1980's to 5.1% in the 1990's with a further decline from 5.24 to 4.85% over the period, 1999 to 2003 (Table 3). This has mainly resulted from the declining contribution of sugarcane cultivation, from 2.09 to 1.65% over the same period. Sugar production is facing its greatest challenge for survival as a result of increasing costs and declining markets. However, the declining trend in non-sugar agriculture contribution to GDP in the 1990's has been reversed, with the contribution of food crops increasing from 0.98 to 1.15% and livestock from 0.54 to 0.58% over the period 1999 to 2003; non-sugar agriculture now contributing to 20% of the agriculture sector GDP. The contribution of the fisheries sub-sector however declined from 1.56 to 1.38% over the period, with the fisheries contribution to agriculture now just under 30%. The livestock contribution is just over 10%, while the forestry contribution is about 1.5% of the agriculture sector GDP.

Table 6. St. Kitts And Nevis Annual Percentage Contribution of Selected Commodities to GDP

Economic Activity	1982	1987	1992	1997	2002
Sugarcane	8.69	4.78	2.90	3.40	2.21
Crops (Other)	2.35	1.49	1.22	1.16	1.12
Livestock	1.84	1.03	0.97	0.57	0.58
Forestry	0.07	0.07	0.08	0.08	0.08
Fishing	2.22	2.15	1.82	1.63	1.53
Total Agriculture	15.17	9.52	6.99	6.84	5.52
Sugar (Manufacturing)	6.16	3.21	2.01	2.36	1.42

Source: St. Kitts Statistical Division/ECCB 2002 Provisional Data

It is important to note that while in general the contribution of the agricultural sector to the GDP has declined over that period the contribution of the livestock sub-sector has increased albeit marginally as indicated in Table 7.

Table 7. St. Kitts and Nevis Annual Percentage Contribution of Agriculture in General and Livestock Production to GDP

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Agriculture	5.24	4.52	4.91	5.52	4.85
Livestock	0.54	0.35	0.49	0.58	0.59

Source: St. Kitts Statistical Division and ECCB

The contribution of the fisheries sub-sector however showed a decrease from 1.56 to 1.38% over the period.

II.1.5 Main Agricultural Produce and Secondary Products

The main agricultural produce and processed products are described in Table 8.

Table 8. Main Agricultural Produce and Secondary Products

Agriculture - sugarcane, sea island cotton, rice, yams, vegetables, bananas; fish products:
Industries: sugar processing, cotton, salt, copra, clothing, footwear, beverages

Source: World Fact Book, CIA website, last updated 2005

[url:http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/sc.html](http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/sc.html)

II.1.6 Main Export Markets

The major markets for exports from St Kitts and Nevis are the United States, United Kingdom and Canada with a small trade within CARICOM. Table 9 shows the main commodities exported and the percentage distribution of export trade among the trading partners.

Table 9. Trade in Exports

Exports	\$70 million (2002 est.)
Exports – commodities	Raw and processed sugar products, Manufactured products - machinery, food electronics, beverages, tobacco
Exports – partners	US 61.4%, UK 15.7%, Canada 8.6%, Germany 4.3% (2003)

Source: World Fact Book, CIA website

[url:http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/sc.html](http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/sc.html)

II.1.7 Trade Agreements that Include Agriculture

The islands are signatory to several trade agreements that impact on agriculture including:

- *General Agreement on Trade and Tariff (GATT), 1986*
Members of GATT were pledged to work together to reduce tariffs and other barriers to international trade and to eliminate discriminatory treatment in international commerce. [World Trade Organization](#) (WTO) replacement for GATT:
WTO Doha Development Agenda – Agreement on Agriculture (AOA)
WTO- Sanitary and Phyto Sanitary (SPS) Agreement
Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs)
- *Cotonou Agreement*
The new ACP-EU Partnership Agreement, signed in Cotonou in June 2000, is a comprehensive aid and trade agreement concluded between 77 ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific) countries and the European Union (the community and the 15 Members state of the EU).
- *Free Trade Agreement of the Americas (FTAA)*
Eliminates barriers to trade and investment across the 34 nations the Americas, creating both challenges and opportunities for agricultural trade.
- *CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) - liberalizes trade among CARICOM countries resulting in increased competitiveness and strengthening the linkages between the agricultural sector and other sectors of the Single Market and Economy*
- *CARICOM – Costa Rica Free Trade Agreement – March 2004*
Underlying Principles include ---strengthen friendship, solidarity and cooperation; development and expansion of world trade; improvement of existing trade relations and creation of opportunities for further economic development; creation of an expanded and more secure market for the goods produced in and services supplied in or from their territories; and the creation of new employment opportunities, improved working conditions and the quality of life of the peoples of both parties.

- *Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Biosafety Protocol* – involves the protection of agricultural biodiversity considered a “global common” from biopiracy (privatization through patents and other intellectual property rights) or the spread of Genetic Use Restriction Technologies (GURTs or Terminator Technologies) and implementation of farmers’ rights to a share of the benefits for their contribution to the development of agricultural biodiversity; the two crucial elements in the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity.
- *CCD – Convention to Combat Desertification/Land Degradation*
The UNCCD recognizes the physical, biological and socioeconomic aspects of desertification; the importance of redirecting technology transfer so that it is demand driven; and the involvement of local populations.
- *Barbados Declaration and Program of Action for Small Island Developing States (SIDS/POA)* – built on Rio Declaration and Agenda 21
The United Nations Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States in Barbados in 1994 helped these States to better understand their common issues and to sensitise the international community to the particular difficulties faced by small island and low lying coastal developing states. The Barbados Declaration and the SIDS Programme of Action which emerged from the conference provided a positive framework to guide these states in their efforts to develop with a promise of meaningful support from the developed countries.
- *The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)* – global targets for poverty reduction, social development and environmental regeneration agreed to by world leaders at the Millennium Summit of the UN General Assembly in September 2000.

II.1.8 Sectoral Policy Related to Agriculture, Fisheries and Forests

The Agriculture and Fisheries Policy developed by the MAFCLH in St Kitts in February 2001, focused on the primary areas of: agricultural production and marketing; agricultural supplies and services; promotion of farmers development, SSMC agricultural diversification programme and transition; land allocation and distribution; fisheries management and development; forestry conservation, protection and recreation and bee keeping and honey production.

The policy proposes placing special emphasis on improved delivery of extension services to farmers through more frequent farm visits and other activities. Attention will be placed on the development of commercial farms so as to meet the market opportunities for crop and livestock products. Development and strengthening of farmer groups will be an area of focus as well as an enhanced working relationship with stakeholder groups. The Marketing Unit will be further developed to respond to market opportunities and the needs of purchasers and producers. Special focus will be placed on the development of creative financing, cost recovery where relevant and prudent financial management of the Department’s budgetary allocations. The Department of Agriculture will continue to work closely with the Multi-Purpose Laboratory for analytical support while technical assistance will be sought from local, regional and international agencies.

II.2 Socio-Economic Profile

This section provides an overview of the past and current socio-economic condition of the islands.

II.2.1 Demographics

The data used to describe the demographic characteristics were obtained primarily from the St Kitts and Nevis Demography Digest (2003), compiled by the Ministry of Planning, 2003. Estimated population data for 2004 was obtained through the CIA – the World Fact Book website.

Preliminary data estimates of population for 2004 are presented in Table 10. The sex ratio of total population of 0.98 male/female, is indicative of the shifts in the male population, particularly in the 15-64 yrs and the 65 yrs and over age groups. Population data by parish was obtained for the period 1970-2001 and is provided in Table 11. In addition data on St Kitts and Nevis population size and growth are presented in Table 12. Other demographic data are provided in Table 13.

Table 10. St Kitts and Nevis Population Distribution by Age and Gender, 2004 Estimate

Age	% of Population	Male	Female	Total
0-14 yrs	28.6	5,675	5,422	11,097
15-64	63	12,242	12,236	24,478
65 yrs and over	8.4	1,349	1,912	3,261
Total	100	19,266	19,570	38,836

Source: CIA The World Factbook – St. Kitts and Nevis, 2004 est.

[url:http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/sc.html](http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/sc.html)

Table 11. St Kitts and Nevis Population by Parish at Census, 1970 – 2001

PARISH	7th April 1970	12th April 1980	12th May 1991	13 th May 2001 ^P
<u>ST. KITTS</u>				
St. George	13,850	14,283	12,605	13,220
Basseterre	12,771	---	11,295	
Rest of St. George	1,079	---	1,310	
St. Ann	3,300	3,145	3,077	3,140
St. John	3,401	3,163	2,936	3,181
St. Thomas	2,195	2,255	2,257	2,332
Christ Church	2,091	1,989	1,664	2,059
Trinity	1,066	1,161	1,250	1,692
St. Peter	2,389	2,497	2,656	3,472
St. Paul	2,071	2,080	2,130	2,460
St. Mary	3,381	3,308	3,249	3,374

TOTAL	33,744	33,881	31,824	34,930
<u>NEVIS</u>				
St. Paul	1,469	1,243	1,411	1,820
Charlestown	---	---	---	
Rest of St. Paul	---	---	---	
St. George	2,778	2,295	2,086	2,568
St. Thomas	2,149	1,975	1,613	2,035
St. James	2,122	1,691	1,493	1,836
St. John	2,622	2,224	2,191	2,922
TOTAL	11,140	9,428	8,794	11,181
TOTAL ST.KITTS & NEVIS	44,884	43,309	40,618	46,111

^P = Preliminary

Source: St Kitts and Nevis. Demography Digest, Ministry of Planning, 2003

Table 12. St Kitts and Nevis Population Size and Growth, 1980 -2001

Date of census	Population			Sex ratio	Intercensal Change (%)	Population rate % p.a.
	Male	Female	Total			
1980	20,840	22,469	43,309	92.75	-3.51	-0.36
1991	19,933	20,685	40,618	96.36	-6.21	-0.58
2001	22,919	23,192	46,111	98.98	13.52	1.27

Source: Statistical Department, Ministry of Finance and Planning

Table 13. St Kitts and Nevis, Demographic Indicators, 1999 - 2003

Year	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant mortality Rate	Neonatal Mortality Rate	Rate of Natural Increase	Number of Still Births
1999	19.4	7.5	21.6	14.3	11.9	31
2000	19.2	6.2	16.3	10.2	13.0	24
2001	19.3	7.0	18.5	14.7	12.3	18
2002	18.7	7.2	18.1	13.6	11.5	16
2003	18.5	7.6	18.2	13.5	10.9	20
2004 (est)	18.3	8.7	14.9	-	9.6	-

Source: Statistical Department, Ministry of Finance and Planning

The average annual growth rate of the population between 1991 and 2001 shows an increase of 0.11% and indicates a shift in the trend of a declining population growth. The fastest growth rate over the last twenty years of 1.27 % p.a. was recorded in 2001, with 1980 showing the slowest growth rate, -0.36% p.a. The net migration rate was -7.11 migrant(s)/1,000 population (2004 est.).

II.2.2 Literacy Level and Languages

English is the official language. Current literacy levels (% ages 15 and over) have been estimated at 98% (Table 14). Data on adult or youth literacy rates were not available. Compulsory education years are 5-15 years.

Table 14. Literacy Rate

<i>Adult Literacy = 98% (2003 est.)</i> <i>Male = 99.0 %</i> <i>Female = 97.0 %</i>

Source: Tiscali

<http://www.tiscali.co.uk/reference/encyclopaedia/countryfacts/saintkittsandnevis.html>

II.2.3 Access to Services

The commitment to health by the government is reflected in the 3.2% of GDP (2001) allocated to public health expenditure. This has facilitated reasonable access to health services, as illustrated by the following 2002 figures from UNDP human development reports presented in Table 15.

Table 15. Commitment to Health: Access and Services (2002)

One-year olds fully immunized against tuberculosis (%)	99
One-year olds fully immunized against measles (%)	99
Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	99
Physicians (per 100,000 people)	117
Population with sustainable access to affordable essential drugs (%)	50-79

Source: United Nations Development Programme

http://hdr.undp.org/statistics/data/cty/cty_f_KNA.html

Following significant public sector investment in the construction and upgrading of educational facilities in the 1980's, access to education has shifted to levels comparable to other islands in the Caribbean. Data on school enrolment obtained from UNDP Development Reports presented in Table 16 and Table 17 indicate the extent of current access to education.

Table 16. St Kitts and Nevis School Enrolment Ratios

Net primary enrolment ratio (%) 2001/02	102
Net secondary enrolment ratio (%) 2001/02	106
Children reaching Grade 5 (%) 2000/01	90

Source: United Nations Development Programme

http://hdr.undp.org/statistics/data/cty/cty_f_KNA.html

Table 17. Enrolment in Lower secondary education

Year	Sex	Total	Public	Private
1994		2794	2671	123
	M	1409	1368	41
	F	1385	1303	82
1997				
		2575	2470	105
	M	1252	1203	49
	F	1323	1267	56

Source: World Education Forum Assessment (EFA): Country Report
http://www2.unesco.org/wef/countryreports/st.kitts_nevis/rapport_2_2.html

II.2.4 Rural–Urban Drift

The data in Table 18 show a progressive increase in the percentage of rural population over the last ten years, with a corresponding decline in urban population for the same period. There has been some level of migration, with workers from other Caribbean islands coming to seek work in the sugar industry or seeking employment within the services. There appears however to be an upsurge in the urban growth in and around the capital town of Basseterre due to a decline in the agricultural sector.

Table 18. Urban and Rural Population as a Percentage of Total Population

	1990	1995	2000	2005
Rural Population (% total pop)	65.4	66.3	67.2	68.1
Urban Population (% total pop)	34.6	33.7	32.8	31.9

Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
 World urbanization prospects
<http://esa.un.org/unup/>

II.3 Media and Telecommunications

Communications in both islands were upgraded in the 1980's and are considered adequate. A main telephone system consisting on average of 569 mainlines per 1,000 people provides excellent international service.

II.3.1 Newspapers, Periodicals and Broadcast Media

A listing of the name of all daily and weekly newspapers, radio stations and television channels and description of the services is provided in Table 19.

Table 19. Newspapers, Periodicals and Broadcast Media

Name	Ownership	Broadcast Hours / Delivery	Agric Column or Programme	Circulation/Reach
Newspapers/Periodicals:				
The Sun St.Kitts	Private	Daily	Weekly	Island wide http://sunstkitts.com/paper/?asknw=view
The Labour Spokesman	Private	Bi-weekly	NS	Island wide www.sknlabourparty.org/spokesman
Observer Newspaper		Weekly	NS	Island wide http://website.lineone.net/~stkittsnevis/observer.htm
Democrat	Private	Weekly	NS	Island wide http://www.pamdemocrat.org/newspaper
The Leeward Times		Weekly		No website
Broadcast Media:				
ZIZ Radio	Joint Venture	18hrs	Weekly radio programme – “Agriscope”	Island wide http://www.zizonline.com
Wyn FM	Private	24 hrs	NS	80% Island No Website
Sugar City Rock	Private	18hrs/day	NS	50% of Island http://www.sugarcityonline.com
Big Wave	Joint Venture	24 hrs	NS	Island wide No Website
Lighthouse	Private	18hrs/day	NS	40% Island
Voice of Nevis (VON) Radio	Private	16 hrs/day	Inside Agriculture/ Bi-monthly	Island-wide http://www.vonradio.com
WinnFM	Private		NS	http://www.winnfm.com
Goodwill FM	Private	24 hrs	NS	Island-wide http://goodwillfm.com
Kyss FM	Private	24 hrs	NS	http://kyssonline.com/
Radio Paradise	Private			No website
ZIZ TV Chan. 5	Joint Venture	8hrs/day	Weekly TV programme – “Agriculture in Context”	Island wide http://www.zizonline.com
Cable TV (many channels)	Joint Venture	24 hrs	NS	Island Wide No website

*NS – Not scheduled (only when placed by agricultural institutions)

Source: Consultant interviews and website searches

II.3.2 Telecommunication Services

The telephone main line service provides good inter-island and international connections. There is also a *domestic connection for*: inter-island links to Antigua and Barbuda and Saint Martin (Guadeloupe and Netherlands Antilles); this connection is provided through by VHF/UHF/SHF radiotelephone. The *international* country code is 1-869; international calls are carried by radiotelephone to Antigua and Barbuda and switched there to submarine cable

or to Intelsat; or carried to Saint Martin (Guadeloupe and Netherlands Antilles) by radiotelephone and switched to Intelsat. Radio broadcasts are carried on 3 AM and 3 FM bands, while television broadcasts are carried on one television transmitter and programmes are rebroadcast through repeaters from the northern tip of St Kitts and Nevis.

A status of the telecommunications services on the two islands is provided in Table 20..

Table 20. Telecommunication Services

Service Provider	Type of Service Fixed/mobile/other	Cost of 3 min call EC\$	Number of Subscribers	Coverage of network/level of access
Cable & Wireless	Fixed	0.08 per min (day time rate)	500 (per 1,000 people) 2002	Island wide
	Mobile	See Table 21, & Table 22.	106 (per 1,000 people) 2002	Island wide
Chippie	Mobile			Limited
DATA	Data Services			Limited

Source: Interviews and Internet searches

Table 21. Cable & Wireless Pre-Paid Mobile Rates⁶

Plan name	PAYG	bFree	bFree Anytime	bFree Anytime Plus
MTM				
Daytime	\$0.79	\$0.79	\$0.75	\$0.55
Evening	\$0.65	\$0.65	\$0.55	\$0.55
Weekend	\$0.65	\$0.65	\$0.55	\$0.55
MTF				
Daytime	\$0.89	\$0.89	\$0.85	\$0.85
Evening	\$0.75	\$0.75	\$0.65	\$0.65
Weekend	\$0.75	\$0.75	\$0.65	\$0.65
MT3				
Daytime	\$0.89	\$0.89	\$0.89	\$0.89
Evening	\$0.89	\$0.89	\$0.89	\$0.89
Weekend	\$0.89	\$0.89	\$0.89	\$0.89
Late Night Rate			0.20	0.20

Source: Cable & Wireless, St. Kitts and Nevis

<http://www.candw.kn/bmobile/Rates.asp>

⁶ Rates in tables quoted in Eastern Caribbean Currency (EC\$)

Table 22. Cable & Wireless Post-Paid Mobile Rates

Plan Name	TDMA: Dig40	TDMA: Dig60	GSM: b75
No of Anytime Bundled Minutes	40	60	75
No of Off Peak Bundled minutes	0	0	50
Monthly fee	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$60.00
Effective Peak Rate per minute	\$1.38	\$0.92	\$0.80
Free SMS			\$10.00
MTM (Peak)	\$0.79	\$0.69	\$0.69
MTM (Evenings)	\$0.59	\$0.49	\$0.49
MTM (Weekends)	\$0.59	\$0.49	\$0.49
MTF (Peak)	\$0.79	\$0.79	\$0.79
MTF (Evenings)	\$0.59	\$0.49	\$0.49
MTF (Weekends)	\$0.59	\$0.49	\$0.49
MT3 (Peak)	n\a	\$0.89	\$0.89
MT3 (Evenings)	n\a	\$0.89	\$0.89
MT3 (Weekends)	n\a	\$0.89	\$0.89

Source: Cable & Wireless, St. Kitts and Nevis

<http://www.candw.kn/bmobile/Rates.asp>

Plan Name	TDMA: DIG150	GSM: b150
No of Anytime Minutes	150	150
No of Off Peak Bundled minutes	0	100
Monthly fee	\$99.00	\$99.00
Effective Peak Rate per minute	\$0.66	\$0.66
Free SMS	0	20
MTM (Peak)	\$0.69	\$0.69
MTM (Evenings)	\$0.49	\$0.49
MTM (Weekends)	\$0.49	\$0.49
MTF (Peak)	\$0.79	\$0.79
MTF (Evenings)	\$0.49	\$0.49
MTF (Weekends)	\$0.49	\$0.49
MT3 (Peak)	\$0.89	\$0.89

Plan Name	TDMA: DIG150	GSM: b150
MT3 (Evenings)	\$0.89	\$0.89
MT3 (Weekends)	\$0.89	\$0.89

Source: Cable & Wireless, St. Kitts and Nevis
<http://www.candw.kn/bmobile/Rates.asp>

Plan Name	TDMA: DIG350	GSM: b300
No of Anytime Minutes	350	300
No of Off Peak Bundled minutes	0	200
Monthly fee	\$210.00	\$179.00
Effective Peak Rate per minute	\$0.60	\$0.60
Free SMS	0	25
MTM (Peak)	\$0.59	\$0.59
MTM (Evenings)	\$0.49	\$0.49
MTM (Weekends)	\$0.49	\$0.49
MTF (Peak)	\$0.69	\$0.69
MTF (Evenings)	\$0.49	\$0.49
MTF (Weekends)	\$0.49	\$0.49
MT3 (Peak)	\$0.89	\$0.89
MT3 (Evenings)	\$0.89	\$0.89
MT3 (Weekends)	\$0.89	\$0.89

Source: Cable & Wireless, St. Kitts and Nevis
<http://www.candw.kn/bmobile/Rates.asp>

Plan Name	TDMA: DIG500	GSM: b500
No of Anytime Minutes	500	500
No of Off Peak Bundled minutes	0	300
Monthly fee	\$285.00	\$265.00
Effective Peak Rate per minute	\$0.57	\$0.53
Free SMS	0	30
MTM (Peak)	\$0.49	\$0.49
MTM (Evenings)	\$0.49	\$0.49
MTM (Weekends)	\$0.49	\$0.49
MTF (Peak)	\$0.59	\$0.59
MTF (Evenings)	\$0.49	\$0.49
MTF (Weekends)	\$0.49	\$0.49
MT3 (Peak)	\$0.89	\$0.89

Plan Name	TDMA: DIG500	GSM: b500
MT3 (Evenings)	\$0.89	\$0.89
MT3 (Weekends)	\$0.89	\$0.89

Source: Cable & Wireless, St Kitts and Nevis
<http://www.candw.kn/bmobile/Rates.asp>

II.3.3 Computers and the Internet

There is one Internet service provider on the islands. Table 23 shows the number of computers per 1,000 people, the name of Internet service provider in the country and the number of Internet subscribers. Internet costs for dial-up and DSL (by company) are provided in Table 24 and Table 25.

Table 23. Internet Services

Service Provider	No. of Subscribers	Rate	Services	Coverage
Cable and Wireless	10,000 (2002)	See Table 24	Dial up	N/A
	212.8 (per 1,000 people)	See Table 25	ADSL	N/A

Source: Internet Searches

Table 24. Dial – Up Internet rates

Dial Up Packages			
Package	Inclusive Hours	Base Price	Additional Hours
		EC\$ Month	EC\$
Internet 10	10	35	4.00
Internet 20	20	60	3.00
Internet 30	30	80	2.00
Unlimited	X	75	X

Source: Cable & Wireless, St. Kitts and Nevis

http://www.candw.kn/Residential/dial_up.asp

Table 25. Broadband Internet Rates

Plan	Download (kbps)	Cost (Monthly)	Plan	Download (kbps)	Cost Monthly) (
ultra	128	\$ 179.00	X 256	256	\$149.00
Select	256	\$ 249.00	X 512	512	\$ 199.00
Premium	768	\$ 599.00	X 768	768	\$ 299.00
Deluxe	1544	\$ 999.00	X 1544	1544	\$ 599.00

Source: Cable and Wireless
<http://www.cwxnet.com>

ANNEX III. PROFILE OF INSTITUTIONS

A listing of all institutions involved in agriculture and rural development activities, including private sector and civil society organisations, with name, contact details, type and role of institution is provided in this section.

III.1 List of All Institutions

A listing of all institutions involved in agriculture and rural development activities, including private sector and civil society organisations, with name, contact details, type and role of institution is provided in this section.

Table III.1: List of institutions in the agricultural sector

Name and contacts	Type	Role
Department of Agriculture Ministry of Housing, Agriculture, Fisheries and Consumer Affairs Director of Agricultural Services P. O. Box 39, La Guerite, Basseterre, St. Kitts Tel: 1-869- 465- 2335 Fax: 1-869- 465- 2928 Email doastk@caribsurf.com	GOV	IN, RD EX RU
CARDI P.O. Box 479, Basseterre, St. Kitts Tel: 1-869- 465-2846/ 498 Fax: 1-869-465-3285 Email cardiskn@caribsurf.com	REG	RD
IICA P.O. Box 1223 Basseterre, St. Kitts Tel: 1-869-465-5104 Fax: 1-869-465-8909 Email icastkn@thecable.net Web site http://www.iica.int	REG	PP/RU
Agricultural Technical Mission of ROC (ATM) La Guerite House Basseterre, St. Kitts Tel: 1-869-465-2372 Fax: 1-869-465-4356 Email: N/A Website: N/A	OTH	EX RD

Name and contacts	Type	Role
Department of Gender Affairs Church Street, Basseterre, St. Kitts Tel: 1-869- 465-2521 Fax: 1-869-466-8422 Email: sda@yahoo.com or mwaskn@caribsurf.com Website: N/A	GOV	EX RU TR
St. Kitts Sugar Manufacturing Corporation (SSMC) Basseterre, St. Kitts Tel: 1-869-465-8216 Fax: 1-869- 465-5109 Email N/A Web site N/A	STA	OT
Foundation For National Development (FND) –St Kitts Basseterre, St. Kitts Tel: 1-869-466- 2576 Fax: 1-869-465-9187 Email fndskbnev@thecable.net Web site www.fndskn.com	BNK	FS
Foundation For National Development (FND)-Nevis Chapel Street, Charlestown Nevis West Indies Tel: 1-869 469 5686 Fax: 1-869 469 5983 Email: fndnevis@hotmail.com	BNK PRV	FS TR
Small Enterprise Development Institute (SEDU)-St Kitts P.O. Box 1008, Basseterre, St. Kitts Tel: 1-869-466-4599 or 466-4601 Fax: 1-869-466-4602 Email: sedu@caribsurf.com	STA	EX IN RU
Small Enterprise Development Institute (SEDU)-Nevis Ministry of Trade Cotton House Building Charlestown, Nevis Tel: 1-869-469-5521 Fax: 1-869-469-5485 Email: businessdevelopment@niagov.com	STA	EX IN RU
St. Kitts Heritage Society P.O. Box 888, Bay Road, Basseterre, St .Kitts Tel: 1-869-465-5584 Fax: 1-869-465-5584 Email: schs@caribsurf.com Web site: www.stkitsheritage.org	NGO	IN OT

Name and contacts	Type	Role
St. Kitts Floral Arrangers C/o Ms Vernice Hendrickson Basseterre, St. Kitts Tel: 1-869-465-2733 Email: N/A Website: N/A	AS-F	OT
Central Marketing Corporation (CEMACO) P.O. Box 375, Pond Site, Basseterre, St. Kitts Tel: 1-869-465-2628 Fax: 1-869-465-1723 Email cemaco@caribsurf.com	STA	TM
Quality Pineapple Growers Association C/o Mr Dodridge Huggins P.O. Box 1223 Basseterre, St. Kitts Tel 1(869) – 465 -6554	AS-F	EX OT
St. Kitts Farmers Cooperative Society Basseterre, St Kitts Anabella Nisbett – Tel: 1-869-465-9185 Terrence Browne – Tel: 1-869-465-6212 Samuel Simon – Tel: 1-869-465-3574	AS-F	EX OT
St Kitts Horticulture Society / Flora hortica Association c/o Dalia John Basseterre, St Kitts Tel: 1-869-465-2230	AS-F	EX OT
Progressive Pig Farmers Association c/o Mr. Donald C. Roberts P.R.O./Secretary Basseterre, St Kitts Tel: 1-869- 465-8003 ; 664-5551	AS-F	EX OT
Agriculture Youth Forum C/o IICA P.O. Box 1223 Basseterre, St. Kitts Tel: 1-869-465-5104 Fax: 1-869-465-8909 Email icastkn@thecable.net or Trinikitti2003@msn.com Website: http://www.iica.int	AS-Y	RU OT
St. Kitts Bee Keepers Cooperative C/o Mr. George Rogers Basseterre, St. Kitts Tel: 1-869-466-6011 Fax: N/A Email: N/A Website: N/A	AS-F	OT

Name and contacts	Type	Role
Development Bank of St. Kitts and Nevis (DBSKN) P.O Box 507 Charlestown, Nevis, West Indies Tel: 1-869-469-5416 Fax: 1-869-469-1262 Email dbskn@caribsurf.com Website: N/A	BNK	FS TR
Farmers Development and Marketing Commercial Enterprise Taylor Pasture Gingerland Nevis Tel: 1-869-469-3006 Fax: 1-869-469-3006 Email: mhanlevl@hotmail.com Website: N/A	ASF NGO PRV	PS-P PS-S RU TM
Department of Fisheries-Nevis P.O Box 644 Charlestown, Nevis West Indies Tel: 1-869-469-5521 Fax: 1-869-469-1698 Email psalhc@hotmail.com Website: N/A	GOV	EX PP PS-E RG RU
Department of Fisheries-St Kitts Fisheries Division, Department of Agriculture, RO. Box 39, Basseterre, ST. KITTS. Tel: 1-869-465-8045 Fax: 1-869-465-2635	GOV	EX PP PS-E RG RU
Nevis Public Library P.O Box 503 Charlestown, Nevis West Indies Tel: 1-869-469-0421\ 5521 Fax: 1-869-469-0684 Email nepublib@caribsurf.com Website: N/A	GOV	IN RU
Nevis Historical and Conservation Society (NHCS) P.O Box 584 Charlestown, Nevis West Indies Tel: 1-869-469-5786 Fax: 1-869-469-0274 Email nhcs@caribsurf.com Website www.nevis-nhcs.org	NGO	PP RD RG
Nevis Growers Cooperative (NGC) Charlestown, Nevis West Indies Tel: 1-869-469-5871 Fax; N/A Email: N/A Website: N/A	AS-F NGO PRV	PS-P PS-S RU

Key:

Type	AS-F	Farmers' association (includes co-operatives)
	AS-W	Women's association
	AS-Y	Youth association
	BNK	Bank or credit institution
	CCI	Chamber of commerce and industry

CHU	Church-based group
EDU	Educational institution
GOV	Government department / ministry
NGO	Non-government organisation
PRV	Private enterprise, company
REG	Regional organisation, project or network
STA	Statutory body
STE	State enterprise
OTH	Other

Role	EX	Extension and outreach
	IN	Information services
	FS	Financial services
	PP	Policy and planning
	PS-E	Private sector – Exporter (fresh, frozen and dried produce)
	PS-M	Private sector – Manufacturer (e.g. tannery, bottler, refiner, roaster)
	PS-P	Private sector – Producer (e.g. commercial farm, fishing company)
	PS-S	Private sector – Supplier (e.g. ag. chemicals, equipment, seeds)
	RD	Research and development
	RG	Regulation (compliance, standards)
	TR	Training (at secondary, tertiary and vocational level)
	TM	Trade and marketing (include market development)
	RU	Rural Development
	OT	Other

III.2 Select List of Key Institutions

1

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Foundation for National Development (FND) - St Kitts</p>
<p>Objective / mission statement:</p> <p>Improve standard of living for low income earners</p>
<p>Field of specialisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Small business development : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farming Fishing Tourism/Taxi/Craft Manufacturing Services: minibus/construction Retail ▪ Loans – \$800- \$150,000
<p>Number of staff professional, clerical, technical, etc; permanent / temporary):</p> <p>Professional 2; Administrative 9</p>
<p>Branches, other sites:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Annual budget:</p> <p>EC\$ 4.8 million</p>
<p>Source of funding, incl. main donors / sponsors:</p> <p>Grant funding , FND revolving-fund, loans (Caribbean Development Bank)</p>
<p>Programme / projects undertaken:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Target audience (plus number, actual or estimated):</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Extent of interaction with CTA – <i>Spore Magazine</i>, SDI, QAS, DORA, seminars, consultants, publications:</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Extent of collaboration / interaction with other institutions (name, nature)</p> <p>N/A</p>

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Foundation for National Development (FND) - St Kitts</p>
<p>How information needs are currently met, and from where or by whom:</p> <p>Credit/business management information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ECCB ▪ Annual Reports – NDF ▪ Banks ▪ Chairman of FND /DAS ▪ Board members
<p>Main information needs not satisfied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sources of funding ▪ Credit risk assessment / risk mitigation
<p>Main problems faced in terms of information and communication management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MIS not functional ▪ Report compilation\Generation ▪ Lack skills for troubleshooting and customizing skills software packages
<p>Why institution selected as a key:</p> <p>Provides a new interface with small producers and is capable of leveraging through information management.</p>

2.

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Foundation for National Development (FND)-Nevis</p>
<p>Objective / mission statement:</p> <p>FND is a community based development finance institution serving the needs and articulating the aspirations of the micro center. It is dedicated to exceeding the expectations of its customers through superior financing and development assistance services. Its goal is to build opportunities for the people of St. Kitts and Nevis to participate in and own viable productive enterprise.</p>
<p>Field of specialisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Business loans ▪ Training
<p>Number of staff professional, clerical, technical, etc; permanent / temporary):</p> <p>Professional/Administrative 2</p>
<p>Branches, other sites:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Annual budget:</p> <p>N/A</p>

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Foundation for National Development (FND)-Nevis</p>
<p>Source of funding, incl. main donors / sponsors:</p> <p>Self funding</p>
<p>Programme / projects undertaken:</p> <p>Training for Contractors Special personal loan programme with a limit of \$15 000</p>
<p>Target audience (plus number, actual or estimated):</p> <p>Contractors, clients and close relatives</p>
<p>Extent of interaction with CTA – <i>Spore Magazine</i>, SDI, QAS, DORA, seminars, consultants, publications:</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Extent of collaboration / interaction with other institutions (name, nature)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CDB ▪ Other branches in the regions ▪ Nevis Co-operative Credit Union ▪ St. Kitts Co-operative Credit union <p>Nature of Collaboration: Information Exchange, Joint Projects- Training</p>
<p>How information needs are currently met, and from where or by whom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CDB ▪ Information from manufacturers
<p>Main information needs not satisfied:</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Main problems faced in terms of information and communication management:</p> <p>- Loan system not fully computerized</p>
<p>Why institution selected as a key:</p> <p>Provides a new interface with small producers and is capable of leveraging through information management.</p>

3.

Name of institution: St. Christopher Heritage Society (SCHS)
Objective / mission statement: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ To protect and promote the natural, historical and cultural heritage of St. Christopher (St.Kitts).▪ To foster a deeper understanding of, and appreciation for our island, St Christopher (St.Kitts).▪ To promote our heritage and to safeguard and preserve our natural environment, our traditions and customs, and our monuments, buildings and historic sites.
Field of specialisation: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Focus on St.Kitts heritage – includes environment impact of history and culture▪ Documentation centre /information source – (water, forests, sugar industry, heritage)
Number of staff professional, clerical, technical, etc; permanent / temporary): Permanent – 3 Part time – 1 Volunteer
Branches, other sites: None
Annual budget: N/A
Source of funding, incl. main donors / sponsors: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Government subscriptions▪ Heritage society projects/membership▪ Income generation through Internet access and photocopying services
Programme / projects undertaken: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage Project: - A pilot project which includes training personnel, document and field research,, workshop on doll making, mask and hunter making, organization of mini conference, exhibitions, brochure production, and the product development.▪ The fundraising heritage raffle and cultural dinner
Target audience (plus number, actual or estimated): The general public

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>St. Christopher Heritage Society (SCHS)</p>
<p>Extent of interaction with CTA – <i>Spore Magazine</i>, SDI, QAS, DORA, seminars, consultants, publications:</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Extent of collaboration / interaction with other institutions (name, nature)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Universities – research ▪ Government agencies – archaeology <p>Nature of Collaboration: Joint projects – surveys</p>
<p>How information needs are currently met, and from where or by whom:</p> <p>Food processing / packaging, agronomy/production systems-medicinal plants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UNICEF ▪ Overseas membership -technical information ▪ Universities (research/reports) – technical Information ▪ Local agencies / resource persons - technical information
<p>Main information needs not satisfied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sources of funding ▪ Credit risk assessment / risk mitigation
<p>Main problems faced in terms of information and communication management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Poor collaboration re information sharing between institutions ▪ Insufficient human resource ▪ Training in new technologies
<p>Why institution selected as a key:</p> <p>The institution has developed tremendous information and communications resources on the national heritage of St Kitts and Nevis and which extends to the agriculture and rural sector. Effective management of these resources would redound to the benefit of the agricultural and rural sector, particularly in the areas of policy decision-making for sustainable development utilizing science-based approach to information.</p>

4.

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Central Marketing Corporation (CEMACO)</p>
<p>Objective / mission statement:</p> <p>To market all locally produced agricultural products</p>
<p>Field of specialisation:</p> <p>Agricultural trade</p>
<p>Number of staff professional, clerical, technical, etc; permanent / temporary):</p> <p>Senior Staff – 8, Clerical- 5, other 47</p>
<p>Branches, other sites:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Annual budget:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Source of funding, incl. main donors / sponsors:</p> <p>Income generation (trading)</p>
<p>Programme / projects undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sponsorship of community groups ▪ On the job training ▪ Joint marketing workshops with Dept of Agric.
<p>Target audience (plus number, actual or estimated):</p> <p>Community groups (rural and urban); staff; farmers</p>
<p>Extent of interaction with CTA – <i>Spore Magazine</i>, SDI, QAS, DORA, seminars, consultants, publications:</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Extent of collaboration / interaction with other institutions (name, nature)</p> <p>Department of Agriculture</p> <p>Nature of Collaboration: Information Exchange</p>

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Central Marketing Corporation (CEMACO)</p>
<p>How information needs are currently met, and from where or by whom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Department of agriculture - trade information (import statistics- price/commodities) ▪ Customs – trade information ▪ Planning unit - statistics
<p>Main information needs not satisfied:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Main problems faced in terms of information and communication management:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Why institution selected as a key:</p> <p>Interacts with most farmers on regular basis and presents a fitting focal point for the information on market opportunities and a platform for closer alignment and opportunity for future information servicing of same.</p>

5.

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Department of Agriculture</p>
<p>Objective / mission statement:</p> <p>To be a high quality provider of leadership and support in non-sugar agriculture and forestry; to secure food self sufficiency and satisfy export market towards sustainable development in St. Kitts</p> <p>Overall objective for strategic plan 2005-2009 “To significantly increase non-sugar agriculture production in a competitive and sustainable manner by the year 2009 through the development of farmers”.</p>
<p>Field of specialisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Livestock Development ▪ Crop Development – Agronomy ▪ Veterinary Health ▪ Marketing
<p>Number of staff professional, clerical, technical, etc; permanent / temporary):</p> <p>Professional – 10, Technical -12, Clerical- 7, other 11</p>
<p>Branches, other sites:</p> <p>N/A</p>

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Department of Agriculture</p>
<p>Annual budget:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Source of funding, incl. main donors / sponsors:</p> <p>Government</p>
<p>Programme / projects undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pasture development – introduction of forage trees ▪ Establishment of marketing facility ▪
<p>Target audience (plus number, actual or estimated):</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Extent of interaction with CTA – Spore Magazine, SDI, QAS, DORA, seminars, consultants, publications:</p> <p>Spore Magazine, SDI, QAS, DORA, seminars, consultants, publication</p>
<p>Extent of collaboration / interaction with other institutions (name, nature)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seminis seed company, ▪ UWI ▪ Agricultural Technical Mission of ROC ▪ CTA ▪ FAVACA <p>Nature of Collaboration: Germplasm development, information exchange, training joint projects</p>
<p>How information needs are currently met, and from where or by whom:</p> <p>Technical Information – operation standards, Rating systems-Financial cooperation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ IICA – Technical information ▪ CARDI – Technical information ▪ UWI – Technical information ▪ FAO – Technical information ▪ CTA – Technical information ▪ Pesticide suppliers – Technical information
<p>Main information needs not satisfied:</p> <p>Market information</p>

Name of institution: Department of Agriculture
Main problems faced in terms of information and communication management: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Management of materials in the documentation centre▪ System for monitoring the various documents / tapes, etc . – Nature, quantities, location within the various offices▪
Why institution selected as a key: Still viewed as a key information resource by stakeholders in the sector.

6.

Name of institution: Small Enterprise Development Unit (SEDU) - St. Kitts
Objective / mission statement: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ To establish a national information and documentation centre in support of small enterprise development activities▪ To mobilize local resources for improved development▪ To provide management training and consultation to existing and newly formed small enterprises and to self-employed Nationals
Field of specialisation: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Consultation▪ Finance sourcing▪ Training▪ Monitoring and extension (existing units to assist with operational problems)▪ -Co-ordination (linkages with other developmental and agencies and NGOs)
Number of staff professional, clerical, technical, etc; permanent / temporary): Professional – 3, Clerical- 1
Branches, other sites: N/A
Annual budget: N/A
Source of funding, incl. Main donors / sponsors: Government
Programme / projects undertaken: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Introduction of Entrepreneurship to High Schools▪ Small Business management program
Target audience (plus number, actual or estimated): Potential, new and established entrepreneurs, with particular focus on groups in which there are high levels of unemployment of mainly youth and women.

<p>Name of institution: Small Enterprise Development Unit (SEDU) - St. Kitts</p>
<p>Extent of interaction with CTA – Spore Magazine, SDI, QAS, DORA, seminars, consultants, publications:</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Extent of collaboration / interaction with other institutions (name, nature)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Department of Agriculture – Information exchange ▪ Social Security ▪ IICA – Training / technical Assistance ▪ Taiwanese Technical Mission of ROC - Financing ▪ CTCS (Caribbean Technical Consulting Services division of CDB) ▪ Development Bank – Institutional Support <p><i>Nature of Collaboration:</i> Information Exchange, Training, Technical Assistance, Financing – (ROC), Institutional Support — Dev Bank</p>
<p>How information needs are currently met, and from where or by whom:</p> <p>Project management, Website development and management, Database development for products: CDB Various Ministries of Government IICA CTCS (Caribbean Technical Consulting Services division of CDB) –Technical Assistance Development Banks</p>
<p>Main information needs not satisfied:</p> <p>Small Business Profiles</p>
<p>Main problems faced in terms of information and communication management:</p> <p>Digitizing and management of information used in the unit</p>
<p>Why institution selected as a key:</p> <p>This organization plays an active role in agricultural and rural development, providing training and business development advisory to producers. Given its strategic objectives to establish a national information and documentation centre in support of small enterprise development activities, it has the capacity to serve as a key vehicle for information servicing in the sector.</p>

<p>Name of institution: Small Enterprise Development Unit(SEDU)-Nevis</p>
<p>Objective / mission statement: To stimulate economic growth and provide avenues for members of the community and the business sector to achieve sustainable income generation, job creation and social development.</p>
<p>Field of specialisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Financial assistance to micro and small enterprise marketing assistance. ▪ Training by coordinating workshops geared to business policy development through work with the Small Business Association
<p>Number of staff professional, clerical, technical, etc; permanent / temporary): One (1)</p>
<p>Branches, other sites: None</p>
<p>Annual budget: \$ 60,000</p>
<p>Source of funding, incl. Main donors / sponsors: Nevis Island Administration (Government)</p>
<p>Programme / projects undertaken: Various workshops: Leather craft, doll making, record keeping</p>
<p>Target audience (plus number, actual or estimated):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community groups ▪ General public ▪ Small business owners/managers
<p>Extent of interaction with CTA – Spore Magazine, SDI, QAS, DORA, seminars, consultants, publications: None</p>

<p>Name of institution: Small Enterprise Development Unit(SEDU)-Nevis</p>
<p>Extent of collaboration / interaction with other institutions (name, nature)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Caribbean Development Bank ▪ United States Piece Corps ▪ Small Business Association ▪ Inland Revenue ▪ Finance Department <p><i>Nature of Collaboration:</i> Information exchange, joint projects</p>
<p>How information needs are currently met, and from where or by whom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CDB- Economic Information ▪ Inland Revenue Department - Economic Information ▪ Finance Department - Economic Information ▪ Small Business Association - Economic Information
<p>Main information needs not satisfied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Information on the local business community ▪ Sources of funding
<p>Main problems faced in terms of information and communication management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The unit needs more resources to create a comprehensive picture of the business community, for mapping its future ▪ Communication
<p>Why institution selected as a key:</p> <p>Has a direct interface with persons in sector and currently plays a significant role in the commercialization of agriculture required for integrating agri-enterprises into the global economy. Also target audience is accord with key CTA's ultimate beneficiaries – women and youth.</p>

8.

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Department of Gender Affairs</p>
<p>Objective / mission statement:</p> <p>Action for social, legal, cultural, political and economic equality</p>
<p>Field of specialisation:</p> <p>Gender Training and Development</p> <p>Community Development</p>
<p>Number of staff professional, clerical, technical, etc; permanent / temporary):</p> <p>Professional – 4, Clerical- 1 (shared)</p>
<p>Branches, other sites:</p> <p>Tabernacle Outreach Centre and Fahies Outreach Centre</p>
<p>Annual budget:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Source of funding, incl. main donors / sponsors:</p> <p>Government</p>
<p>Programme / projects undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Small business management and agro-processing ▪ Project Viola (allowing for teenage mothers to continue their education) ▪ Award Ceremony
<p>Target audience (plus number, actual or estimated):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Unemployed and under-employed persons ▪ Teenage mothers ▪ Outstanding women in society
<p>Extent of interaction with CTA – Spore Magazine, SDI, QAS, DORA, seminars, consultants, publications:</p> <p>None</p>

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Department of Gender Affairs</p>
<p>Extent of collaboration / interaction with other institutions (name, nature)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ministries and departments of governments ▪ NGOs ▪ UNIFEM <p><i>Information Exchange:</i> Joint projects; training; funding</p>
<p>How information needs are currently met, and from where or by whom:</p> <p>Green house, irrigation, etc., group formation and dynamics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Various Ministries and Departments of Government, e.g. Police, Chamber of Industry and Commerce - Market information, production information, technical information ▪ UNICEF – Technical information ▪ CIDA – Technical information ▪ UNIFEM (United Nation Development Fund for Women) – Technical Information
<p>Main information needs not satisfied:</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Main problems faced in terms of information and communication management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Training in database management, <p>-How information is stored for easy retrieval/ access</p>
<p>Why institution selected as a key:</p> <p>Capable of providing a direct interface with vulnerable groups, particularly women, in the sector.</p>

9.

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Nevis Growers Cooperative (NGC)</p>
<p>Objective / mission statement:</p> <p>To facilitate the marketing of produce for farmers of Nevis through the identification of suitable outlets and satisfying the needs of such outlets with quality produce.</p>
<p>Field of specialisation:</p> <p>Sales and Marketing of fresh produce and provision of agricultural supplies</p>
<p>Number of staff professional, clerical, technical, etc; permanent / temporary):</p> <p>Two (2)</p>

<p>Branches, other sites:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Annual budget:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Source of funding, incl. main donors / sponsors:</p> <p>-Farmers -Government</p>
<p>Programme / projects undertaken:</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Target audience (plus number, actual or estimated):</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Extent of interaction with CTA – <i>Spore Magazine</i>, SDI, QAS, DORA, seminars, consultants, publications:</p> <p>Co-seminars and CTA training programmes</p>
<p>Extent of collaboration / interaction with other institutions (name, nature)</p> <p>Department of Agriculture IICA CARDI Republic of China on Taiwan Mission</p> <p><i>Nature of Collaboration:</i> Information Exchange</p>
<p>How information needs are currently met, and from where or by whom:</p> <p>Technical information, integrated pest management, Post harvest technology, Grading systems, Identification of markets, Commodity profiles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meeting – Technical information ▪ Publications – Technical information ▪ Radio – Technical information ▪ Television – Technical Information ▪ Internet – Technical Information
<p>Main information needs not satisfied:</p> <p>New markets for products</p>
<p>Main problems faced in terms of information and communication management:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Why institution selected as a key:</p> <p>Currently provides direct support to producers within a framework; given adequate capacity will be able to improve its level of service to producers.</p>

10.

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Nevis Public Library Services</p>
<p>Objective / mission statement:</p> <p>Committed to the provision of quality services, resources and lifelong learning opportunities through books and a variety of other formats in support of education, work, leisure, personal and cultural development.</p>
<p>Field of specialisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote reading and research at all levels of society ▪ Library information skills for children ▪ Environmental education programmes
<p>Number of staff professional, clerical, technical, etc; permanent / temporary):</p> <p>13 – Permanent 2 – Temporary</p>
<p>Branches, other sites:</p> <p>St. Georges Branch Library</p>
<p>Annual budget:</p> <p>\$ 535,447.00</p>
<p>Source of funding, incl. main donors / sponsors:</p> <p>Government</p>
<p>Programme / projects undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Literacy programme ▪ Reading Start with us Programme ▪ Library summer programme ▪ Information literacy
<p>Target audience (plus number, actual or estimated):</p> <p>Children –infants, toddlers, students; parents; general public</p>
<p>Extent of interaction with CTA – <i>Spore Magazine</i>, SDI, QAS, DORA, seminars, consultants, publications:</p> <p>CTA training programmes</p>

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Nevis Public Library Services</p>
<p>Extent of collaboration / interaction with other institutions (name, nature)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Department of Agriculture – Information exchange ▪ CARDI - Information exchange ▪ IICA - Information exchange ▪ Education USA – Joint project ▪ UNESCO - Information exchange ▪ ACURIL - Information exchange ▪ IFLA - Information exchange ▪ UN ECLAC - Information exchange <p>Information Exchange: Joint programmes</p>
<p>How information needs are currently met, and from where or by whom:</p> <p>Information management techniques and strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ IICA – Technical information ▪ CARDI – Technical information ▪ Department of Agriculture – Technical information ▪ FAO – Technical information ▪ UWI – Technical information
<p>Main information needs not satisfied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Economic Information ▪ Technical Information
<p>Main problems faced in terms of information and communication management:</p> <p>Need for a network manager</p>
<p>Why institution selected as a key:</p> <p>Has extensive reach into rural sector and has a sound structure for information services which can be utilized to the benefit of producers in the sector.</p>

11.

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Nevis Historical and Conservation Society (NHCS)</p>
<p>Objective / mission statement:</p> <p>To promote and facilitate the effective management of the historical, cultural and natural resources of the island of Nevis for the benefit of all its people</p>
<p>Field of specialisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Museum exhibitions ▪ Field studies centre ▪ Conservation efforts ▪ Environmental education
<p>Number of staff professional, clerical, technical, etc; permanent / temporary):</p> <p>Mangers -2; Skilled 4; Unskilled – 1</p>
<p>Branches, other sites:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Annual budget:</p> <p>\$ 430,000.00</p>
<p>Source of funding, incl. main donors / sponsors:</p> <p>Donations; membership fees; endowment; fund raising events; museum shops</p>
<p>Programme / projects undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Biodiversity / marine conservation ▪ Waste oil / litter management ▪ Heritage trail ▪ Intangible heritage development
<p>Target audience (plus number, actual or estimated):</p> <p>General public</p>
<p>Extent of interaction with CTA – <i>Spore Magazine</i>, SDI, QAS, DORA, seminars, consultants, publications:</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Extent of collaboration / interaction with other institutions (name, nature)</p> <p>SCHC; CCA; CIDA; BHC; EU</p> <p>Nature of Collaboration: Joint projects; information exchange</p>
<p>How information needs are currently met, and from where or by whom:</p> <p>Newspapers; magazines; Internet; radio; television</p>

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Nevis Historical and Conservation Society (NHCS)</p>
<p>Main information needs not satisfied:</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Main problems faced in terms of information and communication management:</p> <p>Record preservations/protection</p>
<p>Why institution selected as a key:</p> <p>Similar to SCHS, has extensive links in the national economy and a growing information resource and services that could be beneficial to the agriculture and rural sector.</p>

12.

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Department of Fisheries –Nevis</p>
<p>Objective / mission statement:</p> <p>To assess, regulate and promote sustainable use of the fisheries resources of Nevis, and to manage the harvesting of stocks to ensure food security, also to promote aquaculture, and encourage conservation practices.</p>
<p>Field of specialisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ School based education ▪ Conservation of lobster, turtle, conch ▪ Data collection at landing sites ▪ To promote more efficiency among fishers
<p>Number of staff professional, clerical, technical, etc; permanent / temporary):</p> <p>Six (6)</p>
<p>Branches, other sites:</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Annual budget:</p> <p>EC \$259,000</p>
<p>Source of funding, incl. main donors / sponsors:</p> <p>Nevis Island Administration</p>

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Department of Fisheries –Nevis</p>
<p>Programme / projects undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fish Aggregating Devices (FADS) ▪ Turtle tagging ▪ Beach monitoring ▪ Data collection – landing sites ▪ Coastal regeneration (planting of mangroves) ▪ School programme
<p>Target audience (plus number, actual or estimated):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fishermen (recreational and commercial) ▪ Community groups and hotel guests ▪ Fishermen ▪ General public ▪ School children
<p>Extent of interaction with CTA – <i>Spore Magazine</i>, SDI, QAS, DORA, seminars, consultants, publications:</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Extent of collaboration / interaction with other institutions (name, nature)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nevis Historical and Conservation Society (NHCS) ▪ Department of Planning ▪ Department of Agriculture ▪ Department of Tourism ▪ CRFM- Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanisms ▪ WIDECAST - Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation ▪ CITES-Conventions on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora ▪ Port Authority ▪ Customs <p>Nature of Collaboration: Information exchange</p>
<p>How information needs are currently met, and from where or by whom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FAO – Technical information, trade information ▪ Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanisms (CRFM) ▪ WIDECAST – Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation - – Technical Information ▪ Conventions on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) – Technical Information
<p>Main information needs not satisfied:</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Main problems faced in terms of information and communication management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Illiteracy ▪ More computers and software required

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Department of Fisheries –Nevis</p>
<p>Why institution selected as a key:</p> <p>Becoming more closely aligned with fishers and fisher groups, and is growing as a source for information to same.</p>

13.

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Department of Fisheries –St Kitts</p>
<p>Objective / mission statement:</p> <p>Use of living marine resource is done in a sustainable way.</p>
<p>Field of specialisation:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Number of staff professional, clerical, technical, etc; permanent / temporary):</p> <p>Eighteen (18)</p>
<p>Branches, other sites:</p> <p>Fisheries complex</p>
<p>Annual budget:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Source of funding, incl. main donors / sponsors:</p> <p>Government of St Kitts</p>
<p>Programme / projects undertaken:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Target audience (plus number, actual or estimated):</p> <p>Fishers</p>
<p>Extent of interaction with CTA – <i>Spore Magazine</i>, SDI, QAS, DORA, seminars, consultants, publications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Spore Magazine
<p>Extent of collaboration / interaction with other institutions (name, nature)</p> <p>N/A</p>

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Department of Fisheries –St Kitts</p>
<p>How information needs are currently met, and from where or by whom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Caricom Fisheries – Technical information ▪ Caricom Fisheries Training and Development Institute: Technical information ▪ Japan International Cooperation Agencies (JICA) Technical information ▪ FAO Technical information
<p>Main information needs not satisfied:</p> <p>Needs are generally met</p>
<p>Main problems faced in terms of information and communication management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Information sharing within the network ▪ Proper and adequate compilation of information ▪ Cataloguing of information /storing information
<p>Why institution selected as a key:</p> <p>Becoming more closely aligned with fishers and fisher groups, and is growing as a source for information to same.</p>

14.

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Farmers Development and Marketing Commercial Enterprise (FADEMCO)</p>
<p>Objective / mission statement:</p> <p>To assist farmers of St. Georges Parish with the marketing of their produce and to provide agricultural inputs to farmers at reduced prices.</p>
<p>Field of specialisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Marketing of produce for farmers ▪ Sale of inputs
<p>Number of staff professional, clerical, technical, etc; permanent / temporary):</p> <p>One (1)</p>
<p>Branches, other sites:</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Annual budget:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Source of funding, incl. main donors / sponsors:</p> <p>Bank loans</p>

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Farmers Development and Marketing Commercial Enterprise (FADEMCO)</p>
<p>Programme / projects undertaken:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Target audience (plus number, actual or estimated):</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Extent of interaction with CTA – <i>Spore Magazine</i>, SDI, QAS, DORA, seminars, consultants, publications:</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Extent of collaboration / interaction with other institutions (name, nature)</p> <p>Department of Agriculture</p> <p>Nature of Collaboration: Information Exchange</p>
<p>How information needs are currently met, and from where or by whom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Internet – Technical and trade information ▪ Department of Agriculture – Technical and trade information ▪ CARDI – Technical information ▪ IICA – Technical information ▪ Colleagues – Technical and trade information
<p>Main information needs not satisfied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Information about trade fairs ▪ Marketing data
<p>Main problems faced in terms of information and communication management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Human resources ▪ Financial resources ▪ Equipment
<p>Why institution selected as a key:</p> <p>Current links to producers and ongoing efforts at developing a framework to meet producer needs provide a platform for future provision of information services.</p>

15.

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Development Bank of St. Kitts and Nevis – Nevis Branch (DBSKN)</p>
<p>Objective / mission statement:</p> <p>N/A</p>

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Development Bank of St. Kitts and Nevis – Nevis Branch (DBSKN)</p>
<p>Field of specialisation:</p> <p>Loan disbursement</p>
<p>Number of staff professional, clerical, technical, etc; permanent / temporary):</p> <p>Six (6)</p>
<p>Branches, other sites:</p>
<p>Annual budget:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Source of funding, incl. main donors / sponsors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Social security ▪ Caribbean Development Bank ▪ European Investment Bank ▪ Interest on loans
<p>Programme / projects undertaken:</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Target audience (plus number, actual or estimated):</p> <p>Business persons, entrepreneurs and general public</p>
<p>Extent of interaction with CTA – <i>Spore Magazine</i>, SDI, QAS, DORA, seminars, consultants, publications:</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Extent of collaboration / interaction with other institutions (name, nature)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CDB ▪ Social security ▪ EIB – European Investment Bank ▪ CTCS <p>Nature of Collaboration: Information exchange, joint projects – training</p>
<p>How information needs are currently met, and from where or by whom:</p> <p>Economic/Financial:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CDB ▪ CTCS – Caribbean Technological Consulting Services
<p>Main information needs not satisfied:</p> <p>None</p>

<p>Name of institution:</p> <p>Development Bank of St. Kitts and Nevis – Nevis Branch (DBSKN)</p>
<p>Main problems faced in terms of information and communication management:</p> <p>Inadequate human resources</p>
<p>Why institution selected as a key:</p> <p>Provides a new opportunity for interfacing with small producers and is capable of leveraging through information management and servicing.</p>

16.

<p>Name of institution: - Producer Focus Group</p> <p>St Kitts Floral Arrangers Association/St Kitts Horticultural Society/Flora hortica Association St Kitts Farmers Cooperative Society Progressive Pig Farmers Association Quality Pineapple Association</p>
<p>Objective / mission statement:</p> <p>General objective: To provide training and support to flower growers and producers to improve the livelihood of member growers/producers by improving productivity and product quality, and ensuring sustainability through the implementation of sustainable and environmentally sound agricultural practices.</p>
<p>Field of specialisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Production support ▪ Pineapple processor ▪ Marketing – flower ▪ Training
<p>Number of staff professional, clerical, technical, etc; permanent / temporary):</p> <p>Volunteers – usually executive members of the associations</p>
<p>Branches, other sites:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Annual budget:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Source of funding, incl. main donors / sponsors:</p> <p>Membership fees; grants; sales of products</p>
<p>Programme / projects undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordination of participation at trade fairs/missions ▪ Strengthening of linkages with Cooperatives ▪ Grower/Producer Education and Training

<p>Name of institution: - Producer Focus Group</p> <p>St Kitts Floral Arrangers Association/St Kitts Horticultural Society/Flora hortica Association St Kitts Farmers Cooperative Society Progressive Pig Farmers Association Quality Pineapple Association</p>
<p>Target audience (plus number, actual or estimated):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Flower growers ▪ Pig producers ▪ Pineapple producers ▪ Crop and livestock farmers
<p>Extent of interaction with CTA – Spore Magazine, SDI, QAS, DORA, seminars, consultants, publications:</p> <p>QAS Training – Farmers Cooperative</p>
<p>Extent of collaboration / interaction with other institutions (name, nature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MAFSL Extension – Department of Agriculture ▪ Department of Cooperatives ▪ CARDI <p>Nature of Collaboration: Information exchange, joint projects – training</p>
<p>How information needs are currently met, and from where or by whom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technical – MAFSL Extension – Department of Agriculture, CARDI ▪ Economic – CEMACO ▪ Financial – FND, Department of Cooperatives
<p>Main information needs not satisfied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Workshops/seminars ▪ Funding sources ▪ Trade fairs ▪ Marketing ▪ Transportation/shipping to better utilize neighbouring markets ▪ Production – Practices to improve productivity, efficiency ▪ Business information to improve profitability ▪ Technical – greenhouse technologies, hydroponics
<p>Main problems faced in terms of information and communication management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Growers/producers reliant on a middle-man to access information ▪ Visits from MAFSL Extension during which information can be passed on are not scheduled ones ▪ Lack of organizational structure and resources to manage information
<p>Why institution selected as a key:</p> <p>Organisations provide CTA with an opportunity for more direct interfacing with small growers/producers if capacity for information management and servicing can be enhanced.</p>

**ANNEX IV. PERSONS / INSTITUTIONS CONTACTED
AND/OR INTERVIEWED⁷**

ORGANISATION	NAME & DESIGNATION
Foundation for National Development (FND) - Nevis	Idona Browne <i>Manager</i>
Central Marketing Corporation (CEMACO)	Mr. Derrick Warner <i>General Manager</i>
Foundation for National Development (FND) – St. Kitts	Ms. Vera Manchester/Mr. Shanwa Broadbelt <i>Dep. Executive Director/Accounting Officer</i>
Small Enterprise Development Unit (SEDU)	Debra Tyrell <i>Business Development Officer</i>
Nevis Growers Cooperative (NGC)	Emontine Thompson <i>President</i>
Nevis Historical and Conservation Society (NHCS)	John Guilbert <i>Executive Director</i>
Nevis Public Library	Sonita Daniel <i>Librarian</i>
Development Bank of St. Kitts and Nevis (DBSKN)	Hyacinth Pemberton <i>Loans Officer</i>
Farmers Development and Marketing Commercial Enterprise – (FAMDECO)	Marcel Hanley <i>President</i>
Department of Agriculture – MAFCLH, St. Kitts	Mr. Stephen Duggins <i>Chief Extension Officer / Communication Officer</i>
Department of Gender Affairs – St. Kitts	Miss Shirley Adams <i>Research Officer</i>
Department of Fisheries – Nevis	Arthur Anslyn <i>Director of Fisheries</i>
St. Christopher (St. Kitts) Heritage Society (SCHS)	Jacqueline Harmony <i>Executive Director</i>
St. Kitts Sugar Manufacturers Corporation (SSMC)	Mr. Conrad Kelly <i>Agricultural Manager</i>
Department of Cooperatives – MAFCLH, St. Kitts	Mr. Antonio Wilson/ Mr. Claude Thompson <i>Registrar of Cooperatives</i>
Department of Fisheries – MAFCLH, St. Kitts	Joseph N. Simmonds <i>Senior Fisheries Officer</i>

⁷ Contact information for organisation provided in Annex 3.1.

ORGANISATION	NAME & DESIGNATION
Quality Pineapple Growers Association	Mr. Dodridge Huggins <i>Member</i>
Progressive Pig Farmers Association	Mr. Donald C. Roberts <i>P.R.O./Secretary</i>
St Kitts Farmers Cooperative Society Ltd.	Ms. Anabelle Nisbett (member) Mr. Samuel Simon (member) Mr. Terrence Browne (member)
St. Kitts Floral Arrangers Association/ St. Kitts Horticultural Society/ Flora hortica Association	Ms. Dalia John <i>President</i>

ANNEX V. REFERENCES

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