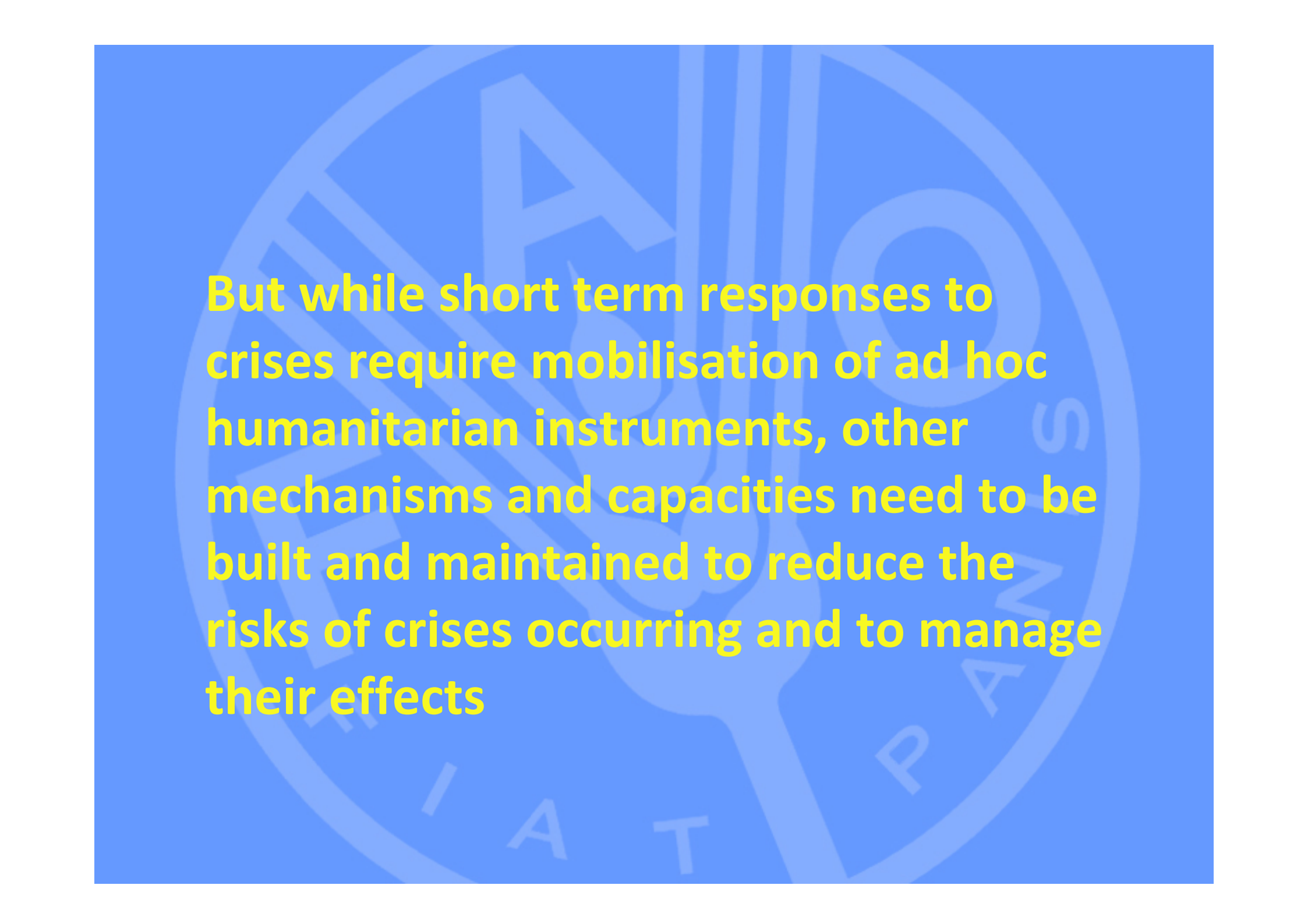


Workshop on Establishment of a Regional Agricultural Market Information System  
Hilton Trinidad & Conference Centre  
Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago,  
February 15-17, 2011

- **PROPOSED FAO ASSISTANCE  
TO CARICOM FOR THE  
ESTABLISHMENT OF EARLY  
WARNING SYSTEMS FOR  
DISASTER PREPAREDNESS  
AND MANAGEMENT**

## THE ISSUE

- **EXTERNAL ECONOMIC SHOCKS, HIGH AND VOLATILE FOOD PRICES, CLIMATE CHANGE AND HIGHER FREQUENCY OF HURRICANES, FLOODS AND DROUGHT REQUIRE SHORT AND LONG TERM RESPONSES**



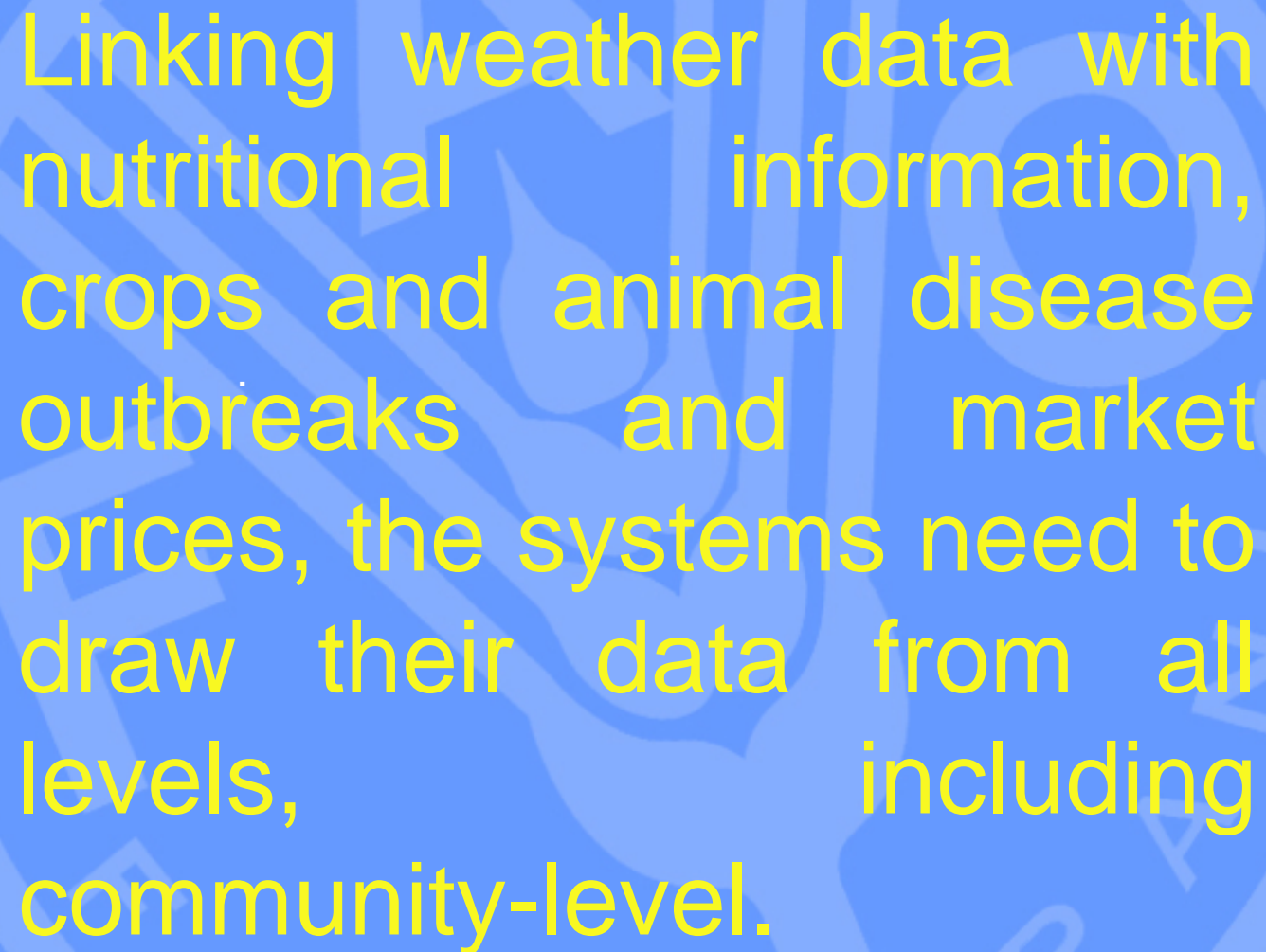
**But while short term responses to crises require mobilisation of ad hoc humanitarian instruments, other mechanisms and capacities need to be built and maintained to reduce the risks of crises occurring and to manage their effects**

The background of the slide features a large, light blue watermark of the FIAAT PANI logo. The logo is circular and contains a central figure of a person holding a staff or a similar symbol. The text 'FIAAT PANI' is arranged around the perimeter of the circle.

**Close linkages between  
humanitarian and development  
actors and instruments are  
essential**

# TOWARDS A SOLUTION

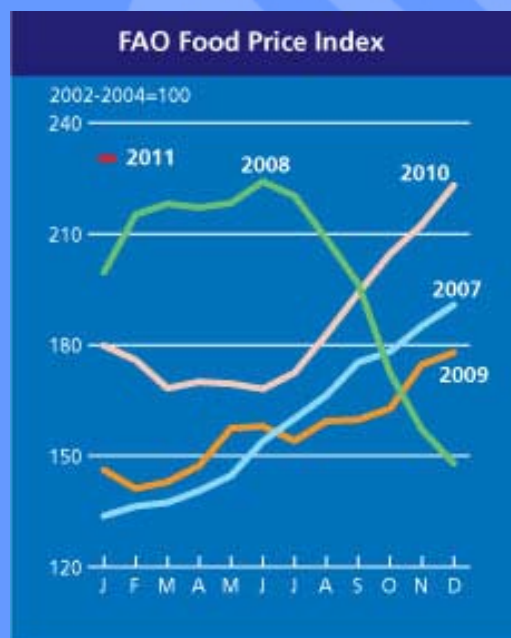
- For this purpose, national or sub-regional early warning systems capable of predicting imminent disasters need to be strengthened or developed where they do not exist, and better linked to decision making and response organisations



Linking weather data with nutritional information, crops and animal disease outbreaks and market prices, the systems need to draw their data from all levels, including community-level.

# FAO FOOD PRICE INDEX

## Jan2011



# FOOD PRICE VOLATILITY

- The **FAO Food Price Index (FFPI)** rose for the seventh consecutive month, averaging 231 points in January 2011, up 3.4 percent from December 2010 and the highest (in both real and nominal terms) since the index has been backtracked in 1990.

# FOOD PRICE VOLATILITY

- TO MITIGATE VOLATILITY, WE NEED MARKET TRANSPARENCY FOR BOTH DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL FOOD COMMODITIES (INFORMATION ON PRODUCTION, RESERVES, PRICES, ETC.), PROMOTING STORAGE, AND LOCAL/NATIONAL FOOD RESERVES WHERE APPROPRIATE AND FEASIBLE

# ITS IMPACT

- can be mitigated by using a range of measures:
- scalable safety nets, food security information systems;
- use of (weather, index) insurance; and
- an enhanced capacity to use price risk management instruments (hedging etc.)

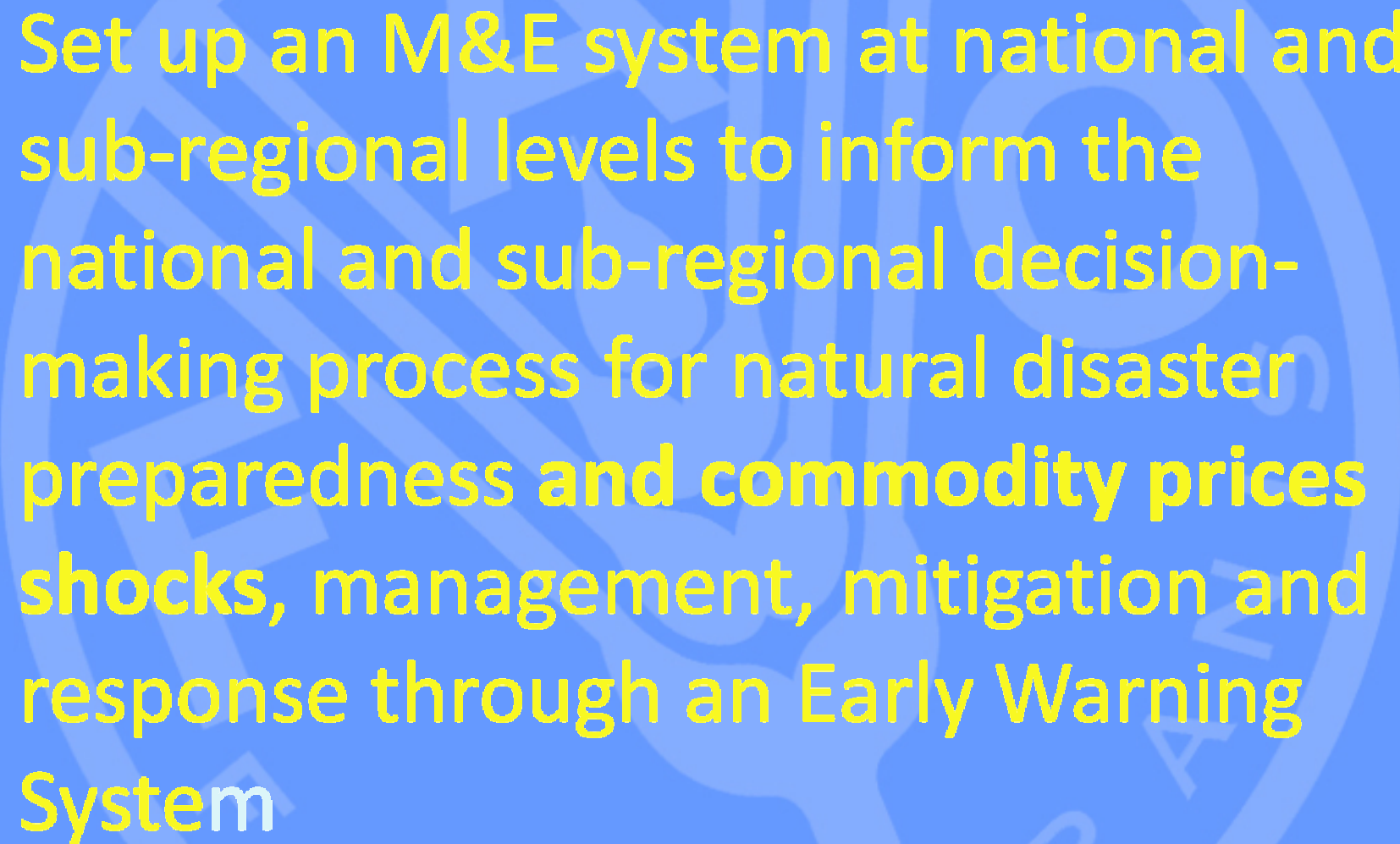


**SO WE NEED:  
A REGIONAL FOOD SECURITY  
INFORMATION SYSTEM**

This requires accurate data collection, collation and analysis.

- So we must:
- Assess the sub-regional and national capability (in national Statistical Offices, ministries of Agriculture, Industry and Trade as well as private sector Industry and Commerce Associations) to produce timely, reliable and accurate information

- 
- Assess capacity enhancement needs within such entities as ministries of agriculture (extension services in particular), research institutions and hydro-meteorological departments for **international commodity price monitoring and hedging capacities in particular**



Set up an M&E system at national and sub-regional levels to inform the national and sub-regional decision-making process for natural disaster preparedness and commodity prices shocks, management, mitigation and response through an Early Warning System

## PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Assess the extent of the need for harmonization and coordination of systems and criteria for the collection and collation of food production, trade, processing and marketing, agro-meteorological and social vulnerability data
- Identify the gaps and shortcomings at national and sub-regional levels in the institutional capability and technical capacity for the collection, collation and analysis of information

# PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Identify the gaps and shortcomings at national and sub-regional levels in the institutional capability and technical capacity for effective monitoring and evaluation activities to assess the impact of actions and programmes aimed at raising food production, processing/ manufacturing and availability and ensuring stability of supplies

## ACTIVITIES

- preparation of a Work Plan and organization of an Inception Workshop for all stakeholders at national and regional levels;
- establishment and application of mechanisms for effective monitoring and evaluation of activities and assessment of the situation on agricultural commodity and food prices at global, regional and national levels in the CARICOM region;

# ACTIVITIES

- establishment and management of **databases** on statistics, data and information regarding the agro-meteorological, food insecurity, food supply and price (domestic and imported) in regional and international markets;
- organization of project formulation workshops for staff of CARICOM and member countries;

# ACTIVITIES

- establishment of food situation monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and data bases;  
fielding of project identification missions and drafting project documents to address medium- and long-term constraints associated with database establishment and management and the setting up of early warning systems at national and regional levels;

# ACTTIVITIES

- sensitization of key financial partner institutions and fielding resource mobilization missions for up-scaling of national and sub-regional projects dealing with disaster preparedness, mitigation and management planning;

regional consultations on the food production, marketing and trade situation and soaring food prices.

# BUDGET

	<b>Consultants</b>		<b>US\$</b>
5542	Consultants – International (3 international consultant for a total of 72 weeks)	2	252 000
	<b>Travel</b>		
5684	Consultants – International (intra-regional travel)		50 000
5692	TSS Travel		
	<b>Training (and workshops)</b>		
5920	Training and workshop budget		130 000
	<b>Technical Support Services (TSS)</b>		
6120	TSS Honoraria		30 000
	<b>General Operating costs</b>		
6300	General operating budget		16 000
	<b>Administrative support Costs</b>		
6118	Administrative costs		22 000
	<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>500 000</b>

# PROJECT EXPECTED OUTPUTS

- Agreement on the main findings of the country and thematic reviews of crosscutting issues: constraints, gaps and opportunities for:
  - Institutional arrangements for a Sub-regional/National Information System for Food and Nutrition Security
  - Database establishment and management

# PROJECT EXPECTED OUTPUTS

- Harmonization of systems and criteria for data collection
- Improved Disaster Preparedness Planning at national and sub-regional levels

# PROJECT EXPECTED OUTPUTS

- Regional Web based Food & Nutrition Portal established/strengthened to communicate outputs to stakeholders
- Institution of a regular periodic Report to COTED on the status of Food Consumption, Supply, Prices and their impact on food & Nutrition security in the CARICOM region

-

# PROJECT OUTPUTS

1. Funding proposal for the establishment and/or strengthening where appropriate of the institutional framework and arrangements (involving representatives of public, private and civil society stakeholders) required at national and regional levels;
2. A training programme to fill gaps in knowledge and skills in monitoring and evaluation of activities and situation assessment in respect of the above at both national and regional levels

# PROJECT OUTPUTS (cont'd)

- Staff of CARICOM and officers in member countries with upgraded skills and knowledge in situation analysis/assessment and monitoring of agricultural/food market prices and conditions;
- Mechanisms for effective monitoring and evaluation designed and agreed;
- Capacities for harmonization of policies and procedures for intra-regional trade enhanced;
- Databases established at sub-regional level on agro-meteorological/climate/food situation and prices.

## PROJECT OUTPUTS (cont'd)

- Agreement on key policy actions and investment projects and programmes (and their order of priority) to move the countries of the sub-region towards improved stability of food supplies and sustainable food security within the next 5 years.

# PROJECT OUTPUTS (cont'd)

- The successful harmonization of national and sub-regional policy measures and the creation of synergies between countries and the multi-stakeholder efforts in response to acute and chronic food insecurity in the CARICOM region.
- Recommendations for sub-regional actions to mitigate the negative effects of high food prices, particularly on vulnerable populations in the sub-region



Thank You