



THE UNIVERSITY
OF THE
WEST INDIES

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION WORKSHOP

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CONTRIBUTIONS OF WOMEN TO DRR-CCA IN CARIBBEAN AGRICULTURE

Presented by:

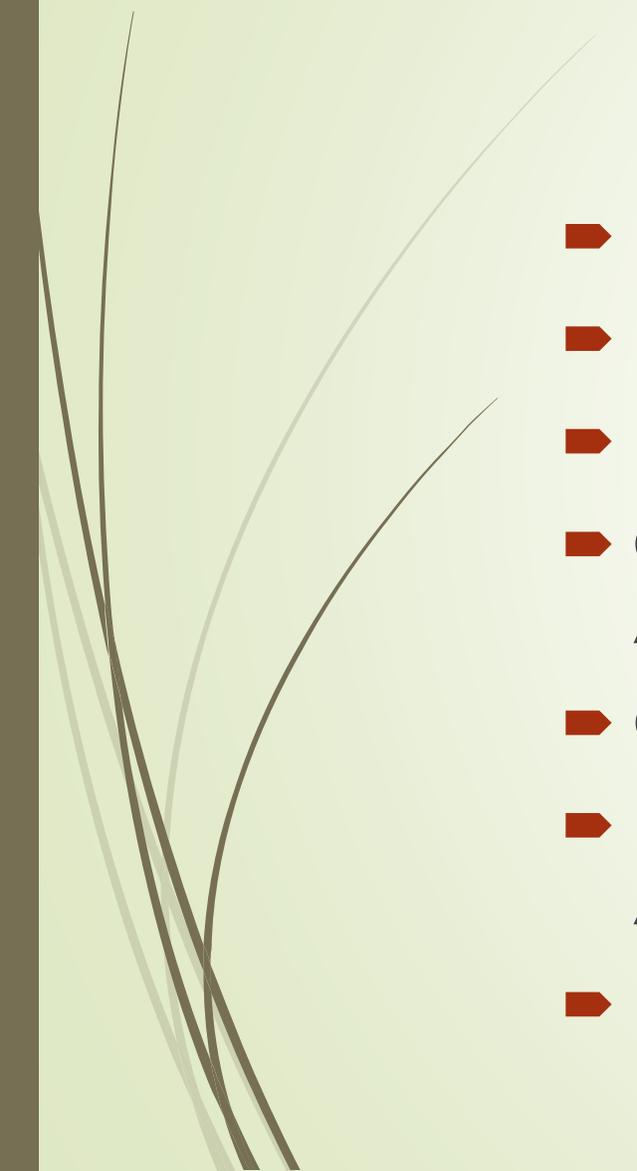
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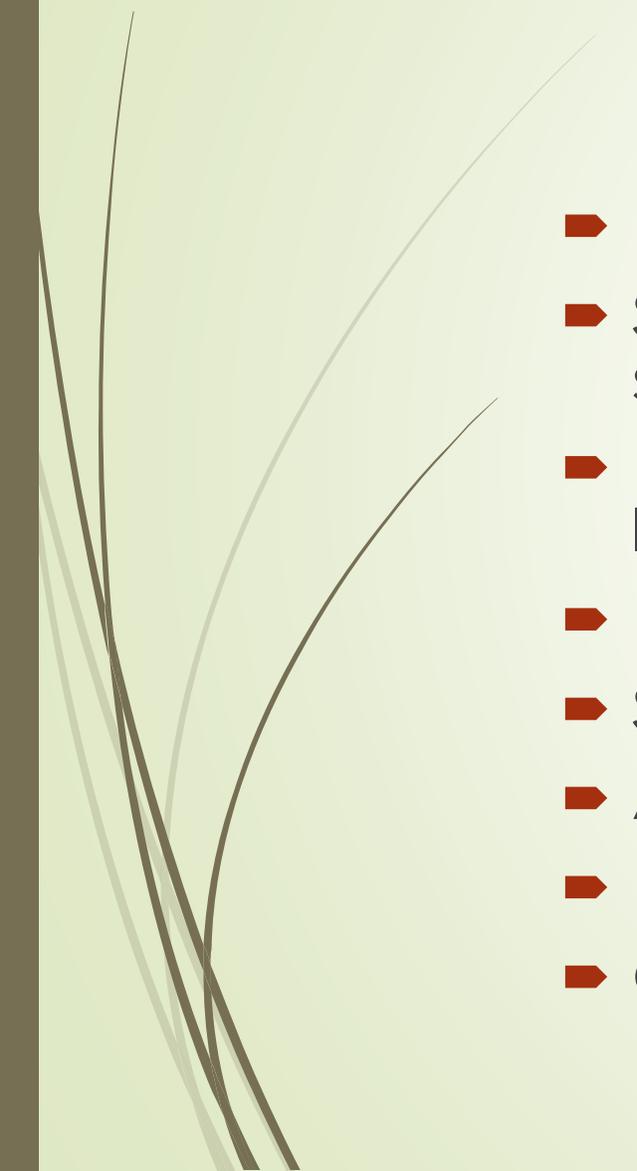


Presentation Outline

- Presentation Context: Caribbean Agriculture Profile
 - Importance of Agriculture to Caribbean Economies
 - Food Security Context of Caribbean Agriculture
 - Contribution of Women to Sustainability of Caribbean Agricultural Systems
 - Gender Inequalities in Caribbean Agriculture
 - DRR-CCA Contributions of Women to Caribbean Agriculture
 - Presentation Summary
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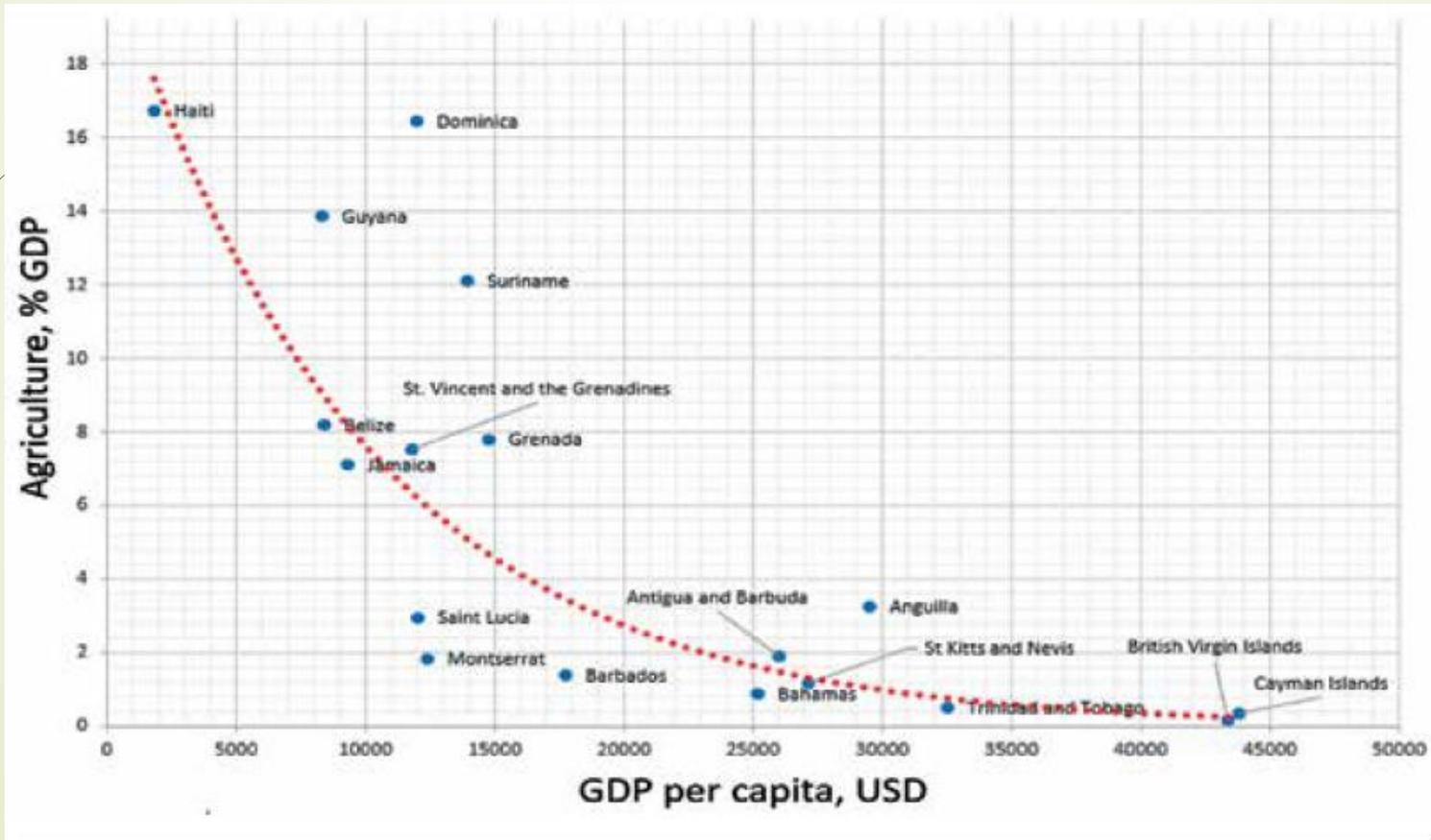


CONTEXT: Caribbean Agriculture Profile

- Rationale for focus on small-scale agriculture
 - Small and declining contribution of domestic food production sector to GDP
 - Prominence of small-scale food production systems in livelihood profile of CARICOM States
 - Biases in land resource allocation – agriculture dualism
 - Specific hazard vulnerabilities in food production sector
 - Absence of dedicated catastrophic risk transfer
 - Under recognized contributions of women
 - Gender disparities in Caribbean agriculture
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Importance of Agriculture to Caribbean Economies

GDP per capita and share of agriculture in GDP in the Caribbean (2016)

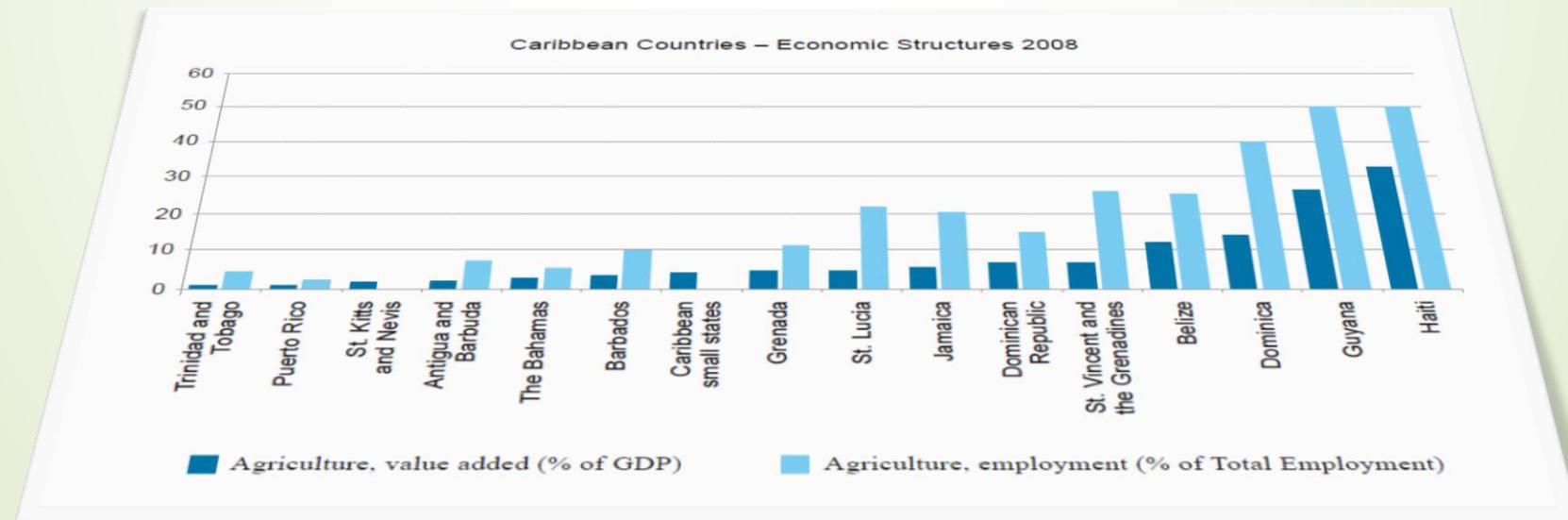


Source: Authors adapted from World Bank Development Indicators.

Food Security Context

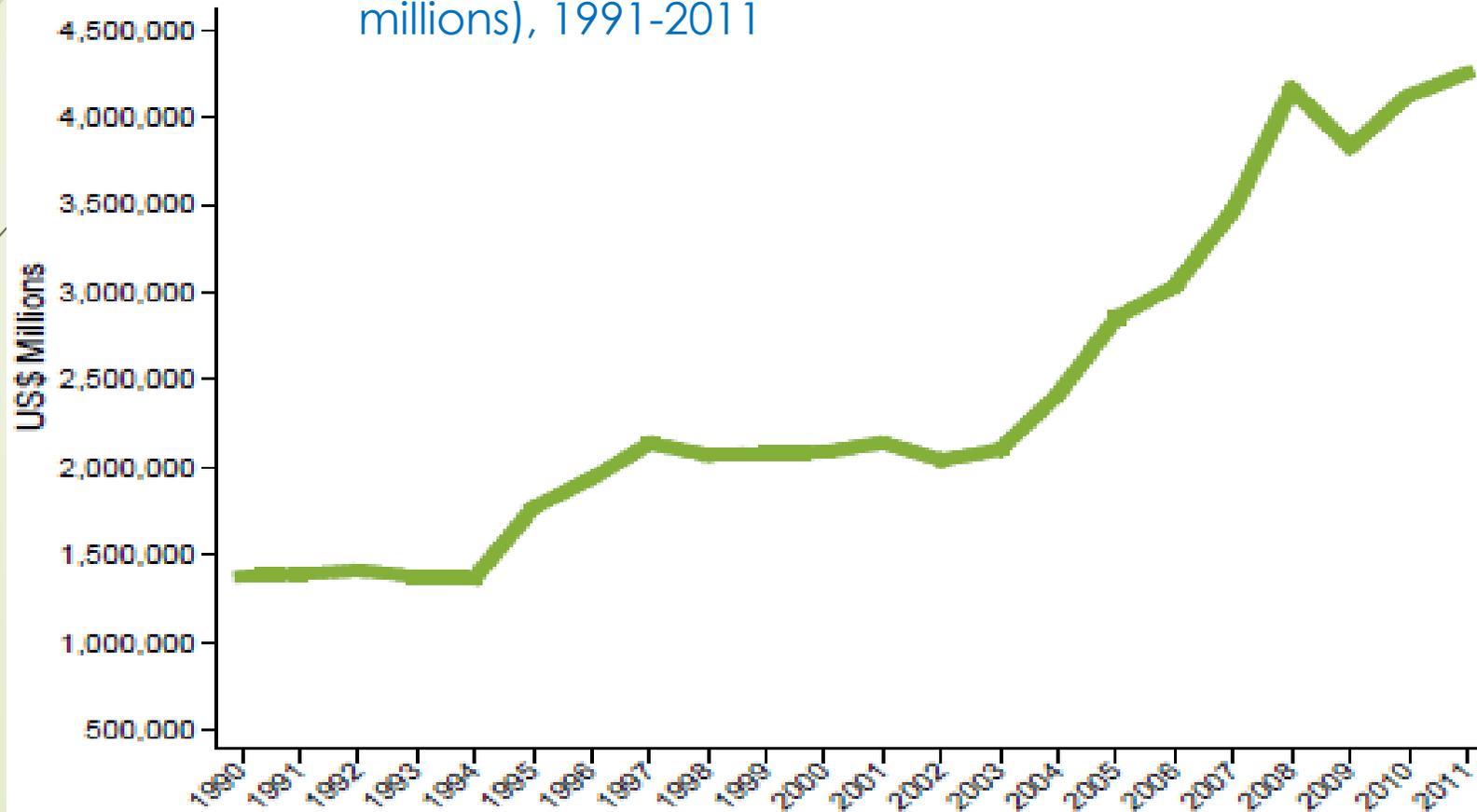
- Status of CARICOM food security provides backdrop for evaluating need for DRM risk transfer mechanism in domestic food sector

Comparative Contribution of Agriculture to GDP and Employment



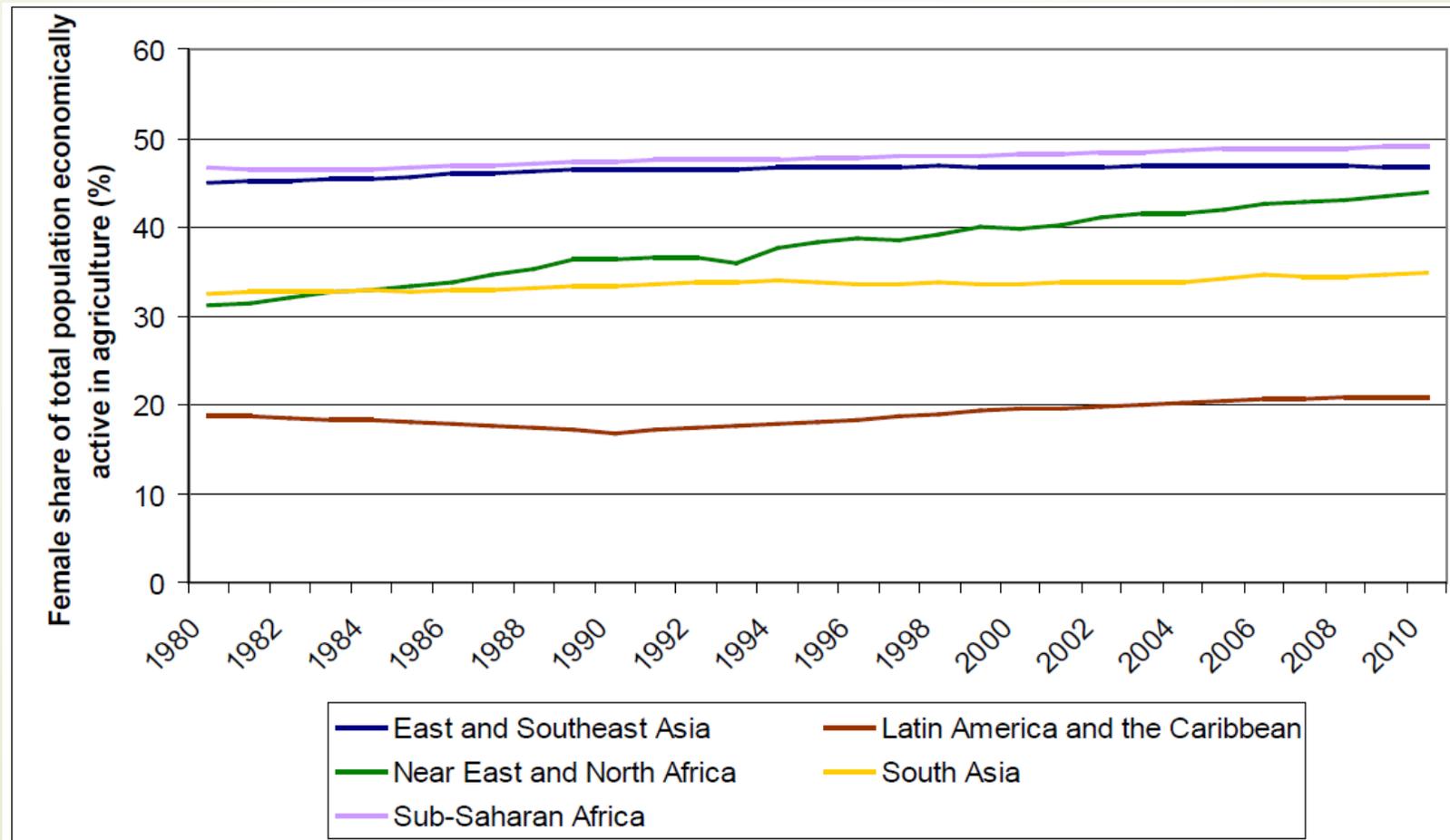
Source: FAO, 2015

CARICOM Food Import Bill (US\$ millions), 1991-2011



Contribution of Women to sustainability of Caribbean Agricultural Systems

Critical role of Women in Caribbean Agriculture





Women's Contributions to Food Value Chain

Backyard gardens –

Incubators for farming systems, household food security

Products marketing –

market intelligence, production decision making

Agro-processing

– Value added to food value chain

Agriculture Extension –

Increasing registration in agric colleges, knowledge enhancement

Financial management (household level)

Fisheries sub-sector contributions –

post-harvest engagements



Gender Inequalities in Caribbean Agriculture

Share in Agricultural employment – range from 20-30% of registered farmers

Access to Land and other productive resources – reflection of tenurial systems
RADA-11% of cultivated land owned by women

Access to Credit – related to lack of collateral such as land titles

Access to Information, Knowledge, Decision-making – land tenure status of women, insufficient gender sensitization in extension



DRR-CCA Contributions of Women to Caribbean Agriculture

Incubator Stewards of Agriculture Systems

Supervise incubation of young farmers, DRR-CCA knowledge transfer (My Mother Who Fathered Me)

Water Resource Management

Practice & transfer water resource management skills that are critical to drought management climate change-related water deficits

Promotion of Agro-biodiversity

Species diversity is greatest in kitchen gardens and female-owned farms. Reflects greater awareness than men of use-value of plants. Agro-biodiversity is a risk-minimization strategy that enhances resilience in the face of climate uncertainties



DRR-CCA Contributions of Women to Caribbean Agriculture

Food Security & Sovereignty

Small-scale farming is pillar of domestic food security. Although underrepresented in small farmer registration, their household level agriculture decision-making role is indispensable to domestic food supply chain and there invaluable to food supply/access dynamic for DRR-CCA

Executors of DRR-CCA Extension Interventions

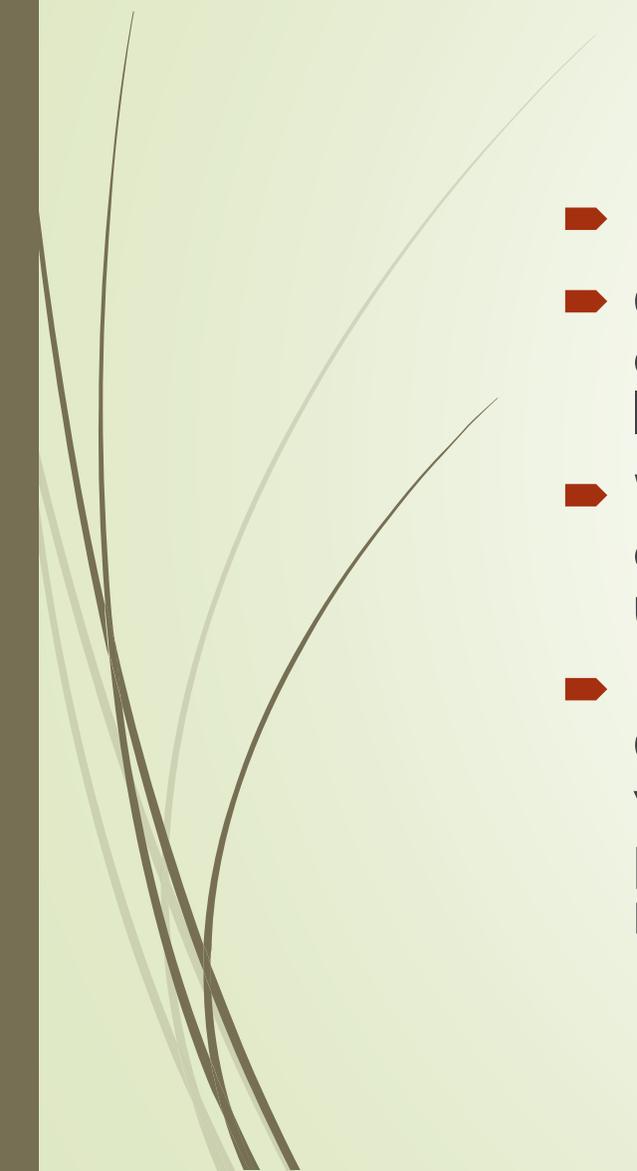
Although women disproportionately targeted for DRR-CCA extension interventions, their household financial management, production decision-making and community-level communication networking are critical to DRR-CCA extension interventions

Rural Poverty Alleviation & Disaster Vulnerability Reduction

Household financial/agric production decision-making, small & micro-enterprise development by women are indispensable to rural poverty alleviation and resilience capacity building



Summary

- Focus on agriculture systems resilience critical to DRR-CCA
 - Critical role of women is under-recognized and rarely acknowledged at DRR-CCA interventions decision-making levels
 - Women remain backbone of Caribbean agricultural systems despite extreme inequities in production resources access & utilization
 - Requisite robust interventions for DRR-CCA for resilience in Caribbean agriculture must go beyond recognition of the vital role of women, but must simultaneously address prevailing inequities in resource access among women and must be gender-sensitive in approach
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Thank You