

**IDENTIFYING KEY POLICY POSITIONS,
STAKEHOLDERS AND MECHANISMS
FOR GERMIPALSM AND
INFORMATION SHARING RELEVANT
TO THE CARIBBEAN**

WORKING GROUP #2

KEY POLICY POSITIONS

- RATIFICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TREATY FOR PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (ITPGRFA)
 - A good legal framework moving forward
 - Cost vs. the benefit of ratification is low
 - Improves access to funds
 - Enables improved benefit sharing and germplasm exchange among countries
 - Mandates and supports the need for documentation/inventory of PGRFA

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- Farmers
- Farmers' organizations
- National Ministries of Agriculture, Health and Environment, Forestry, Fisheries, Meteorological Services, Education, Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management
- Regional and international agencies such as CARDI, FAO, IICA, CIMH, CCCCC, CFNI
- Research agencies and institutions
- Academia – Regional Universities
- Civil Society

MECHANISM FOR GERMPALSM AND INFORMATION SHARING

- ITPGRFA as a legal framework
- Functional network at the national and regional level
 - CARDI could facilitate/coordinate the operations of national networks
 - Assign a focal point in the Ministries of Agriculture: this person should have the competence and experience of working with PGR
- Need for a Regional Transit Centre for the safe transfer and certification of planting material

MECHANISM FOR GERMPLASM AND INFORMATION SHARING

- External funding for the network to get it up and running and show impact for eventual government buy-in
- Communication strategy
 - In parallel with other mechanisms for buy-in at different levels – policy makers, technicians, general public
 - Including the use of social media such as blogs, virtual meetings etc.