CARDI joins international community in commemorating World Food Day 2018

16 October 2018 - The Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) joins the international community in commemorating World Food Day, 2018. This year’s theme “Our actions are our future. A #ZeroHunger world by 2030 is possible.” puts into focus the need for us to step up our collective efforts in addressing the issues of hunger, malnutrition, undernutrition and obesity which are on the rise. According, to the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) the world produces enough food to feed everyone, yet one person in nine suffers from chronic hunger.

The agriculture sector, holds the key to improving the health and nutrition of the peoples across the Region. As a key stakeholder, CARDI stands ready and willing to partner with all entities towards taking bold action for developing a productive and resilient agriculture sector. We have begun working to strengthen agricultural value chains for traditional commodities such as coconuts, sweet potatoes and cassava. Climate resilience, one of the pillars of CARDI’s research and development agenda is focused on developing drought resistant varieties and climate smart systems. Emphasis is also being placed on improving the productivity of small ruminants, enhancing food safety systems, supporting capacity building opportunities and public awareness campaigns, youth engagement and developing coordinated policies. Collectively these actions will assist in safeguarding the region’s food basket, stabilise food supply and price while at the same time empowering farmers.

Today, CARDI offices across the Region will join with partners in hosting exhibits, delivering presentations and participating in social events all geared towards highlighting the work of the Institute in building a productive, competitive and resilient agriculture sector.

Executive Director, Barton Clarke says that “good health is central to human happiness and well-being. A healthy person is a more productive person and productivity is a crucial determinant of economic growth and an improved standard of living.”

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