



Caribbean
Agricultural
Research and
Development Institute

CARDI Strategic Plan

2024-2028



**Using Science and Innovation to
Improve Caribbean Agri Food Systems**





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CARDI Strategic Plan 2024-2028

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About CARDI

CARDI (www.cardi.org) was established in 1974 to serve the agricultural research and development needs of the Member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). The Institute works in collaboration with local, regional, and international partners within both the private and public sectors to develop evidence based solutions that contribute to food and nutrition security, climate resilience, poverty reduction and sustainable utilisation of natural resources.



Data collection
in research plot.
© CARDI Belize

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Foreword

I am pleased to present the CARDI Strategic Plan 2024-2028. This is our 5 year road map contributing towards the development of a productive, resilient and competitive regional agriculture sector.

Agriculture development in the Caribbean is facing new and accelerating challenges. This of course is happening against the backdrop of an increased demand for food – food which needs to be nutritious, safe, affordable and accessible. However, with challenges comes opportunities and as we usher in our 50th anniversary, we at CARDI are committed to working to find solutions to these challenges, backed by science and innovative research.

Shaped by inputs and feedback from our stakeholders, partners, collaborators and staff, this Strategic Plan is built around four Strategic Pillars which are designed to respond to their current and future needs.

It is clear that a united effort is needed to solve our food and nutrition security challenges in the Region, and at the center of our strategy is collaboration, with current and new partners. Support for agricultural research is indispensable to finding solutions to our challenges and we will continue to advocate for increased funding. Continuous investments will contribute to the development of scalable, innovative solutions needed to improve production, productivity, sustainability, efficiency



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ansari Hosein'.

Ansari Hosein

Executive Director
Caribbean Agricultural Research and
Development Institute (CARDI)



and resilience across agriculture value chains. Without a significant boost in investments for research and development in agriculture, the Region's food systems will simply not be agile enough to respond to the unprecedented challenges faced by producers and consumers as well as meet our food and nutrition security and developmental targets.

Over the next five years there will also be a renewed focus on resource mobilization, communication, and knowledge management, human capacity development and the adoption of information and communication technology. To best execute this Strategy, the Institute's structure will be realigned to achieve improved operational efficiency, responsiveness and effectiveness.

These are all complementary actions deliberately designed to assist CARDI in achieving our vision of **'A resilient, innovative, and sustainable CARICOM agri-food system that adequately meets the food security and nutritional needs of Caribbean people.'**

The Plan is rooted in a thorough analysis of the institute's performance over the last strategic period (2018 – 2023) and compliant to the adopted CARICOM's Results Based Management (RBM) framework. It also aligns with the Vision 25 x 2025, the OECS Fast Strategy, the CARICOM Strategic Plan and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development among others.

This Strategic Plan is dynamic and will be proactively adapted to meet the evolving and changing needs of stakeholders.

I wish to thank everyone who contributed to the development of this Strategic Plan. Your valuable insights and feedback are appreciated.

We at CARDI wish to extend an open invitation to you, to work with us to transform and reposition Caribbean agriculture as an engine for economic growth and sustainable development.



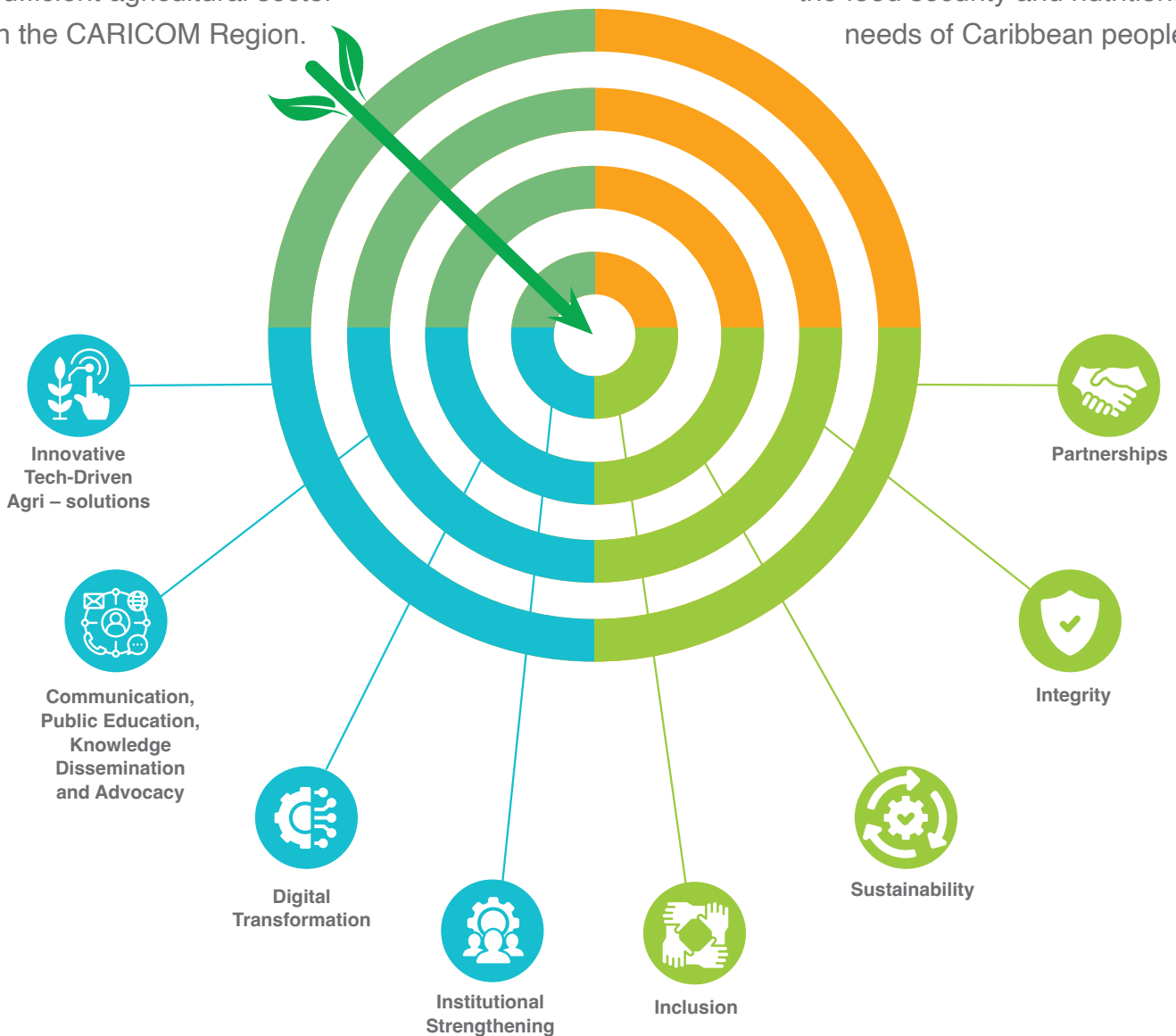
Strategic Framework

MISSION STATEMENT

To lead agriculture research and development that drives a competitive and self-sufficient agricultural sector in the CARICOM Region.

VISION STATEMENT

A resilient, innovative, and sustainable CARICOM agri-food system that adequately meets the food security and nutritional needs of Caribbean people.



STRATEGIC PILLARS

CORE VALUES

1 Introduction

Who we are and what we do

The Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) is an Institution of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and one of the foremost organisations dedicated to conducting research and development that seeks to improve the competitiveness and sustainability of the regional agricultural sector. The Institute was established in 1974 to serve the agricultural research and development needs of its Member Countries. Headquartered in Trinidad and Tobago with representation in fourteen (14) countries, the Institute directly serves an aggregate population of over 6.9 million people.

CARDI works in collaboration with local, regional, and international partners within both the private and public sectors to develop evidence based solutions that contribute to food and nutrition security, climate resilience, poverty reduction and sustainable utilisation of natural resources.

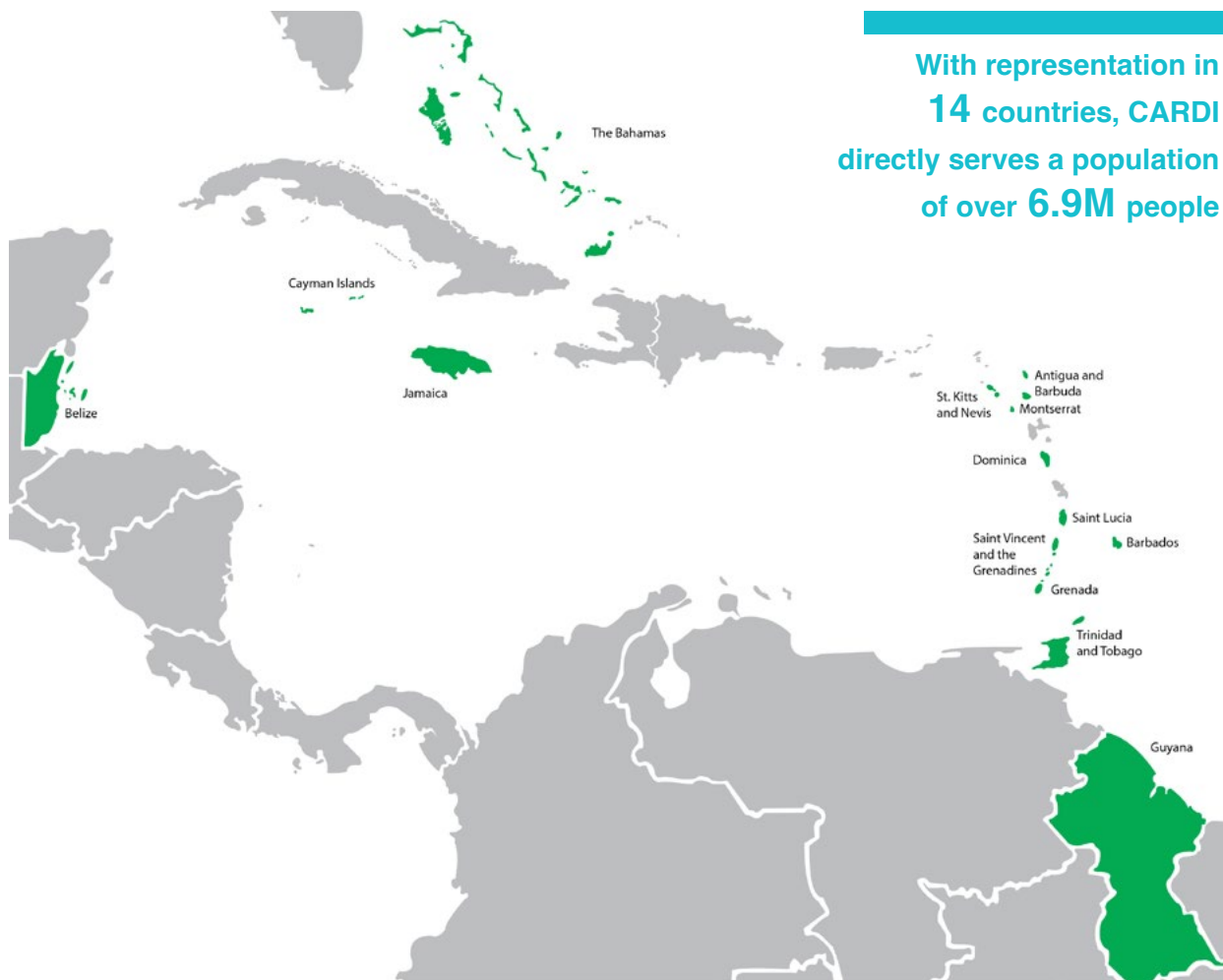


Figure 1: Map showing CARDI member states



The Caribbean's Agri Food Systems

Agriculture has always been of significant importance to the economic and social prosperity of the Caribbean people. As a result of Europe's preferential treatment, banana and sugar cane once reigned supreme in the international markets, earning significant foreign exchange for many Caribbean countries. However, the dissolution of these preferential agreements led to a restructuring of farming systems from export plantation crops to more diversified small holdings.

Since then the sector's contribution to GDP has been steadily declining. In countries like Cayman Islands, Trinidad and Tobago, Grenada and St Vincent and the Grenadines agriculture contributes less than 5% to GDP while in countries like Guyana, Jamaica, Haiti and Belize the sector's contribution to GDP ranges between 8% to 25%. Directly related to this has been the number of persons employed in the sector. Data obtained from national governments reveal that employment in the sector varies between 1.3% (Cayman Islands) to 46% (Haiti) within CARICOM.

Today, the Region's ageing farming population and the disinterest and subsequent low engagement of youths are among the greatest challenges to the sector's development and expansion in CARICOM. An ageing workforce (average age of farmers in the Caribbean is between 50 – 60 years old) with relatively low education levels impact production and in particular the uptake of digital solutions. Agriculture technologies are reshaping the face of traditional farming and revolutionising productivity, efficiency and sustainability. However, the digital divide remains a barrier to adoption and use of these innovative technologies in Caribbean agriculture. Further compounding this negative impact is the fact that qualified, tech savvy young people don't see agriculture as an attractive career with good prospects. This is mainly driven by negative public connotations such as a career in agriculture is hard work, attracts low wages and poor working conditions.

Agriculture productivity is low and there is overwhelming evidence to indicate the sector is operating below its true potential. Most countries are net food importers with the annual food import bill estimated at United States dollars USD \$6 billion. The Region's heavy reliance on international trade for food and agro inputs mean that we are highly vulnerable to external shocks such as political conflicts, wars and natural disasters etc. This was clearly demonstrated by the disruption of trade occasioned by the COVID – 19 pandemic and the subsequent Russia – Ukraine conflict which resulted in long term impacts on food prices, hunger and malnutrition across the Region. Evidence of this is documented in the CARICOM/World Food Programme Caribbean Food Security & Livelihoods Survey. The 7th Round of the Survey conducted in early 2024 reported an estimated three million people in the English and Dutch speaking Caribbean are currently experiencing moderate to severe food insecurity. While there was a 17% decrease compared to 2023, food insecurity is 78% higher than at the start of the pandemic in 2020— with the most vulnerable, particularly those with lower incomes or those with a disability/chronic illness among the most affected.

When compared to healthier options, a large proportion of imported food into the Region are cheaper, calorie dense and high in sugar, trans fats and salt. When compared across regions, in 2022, the Cost of a Healthy Diet was highest in Latin America and the Caribbean (4.56 PPP dollars) when compared to Africa (3.74 PPP dollars), Northern America and Europe (3.57 PPP dollars).¹ The ready availability and affordability and consumption of these imported goods into the Region have been linked to the high prevalence of non-communicable diseases such as cardiovascular diseases, hypertension, cancer and diabetes in the population. Non communicable diseases are the leading cause of death in many Caribbean countries. Of growing concern is the high incidence of childhood obesity. In the last two decades, the figures have increased worryingly in children under 5 years of age, from 6.8 per cent (3.9 million) in 2000 to 8.6 per cent (4.2 million) in 2022; and in children and adolescents between 5 and 19 years of age, from 21.5 per cent (35 million) in 2000 to 30.6 per cent (49 million) in 2016.² The burden of non-communicable diseases is not only inextricably linked to the food consumed but has been responsible for hindering our progress towards achieving sustainable development with many countries calling it a public health emergency.

The Caribbean is highly vulnerable to the vagaries of climate change and it remains one of our most significant developmental challenges. It will continue to be a major disruptor in the agriculture sector as the associated high temperatures, erratic precipitation patterns, devastating heat waves, floods and hurricanes will all continue to destabilise the Caribbean's food systems disrupting production, and access and availability of food. The average disaster has caused millions in loss and damages, directly impacting food and nutrition security and the livelihoods of the persons employed and most dependent on the sector for survival. The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) has reported that climate related natural disasters can reduce GDP by as much as 3.6% in the Caribbean (IDB 2024).³



1 FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. 2024. *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2024 – Financing to end hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition in all its forms*. Rome. Accessed from <https://openknowledge.fao.org/items/d8f47624-8b43-412a-bbc2-18d2d830ad5b>

2 United Nations Children's Fund, *Childhood overweight on the rise. Is it too late to turn the tide in Latin America and the Caribbean?*, 2023 Report, UNICEF, Panama City, August 2023. Accessed from <https://www.unicef.org/easterncaribbean/media/4816/file/Childhood%20overweight%20on%20the%20rise%20in%20LAC%20-%202023%20Report.pdf>

3 IDB (2024). *Climate Change and Latin America and the Caribbean*. <https://www.iadb.org/en/news/climate-change-and-lat-in-america-and-caribbean>

The Future Prospects for the Region

Changes in rainfall patterns and higher temperatures will affect water availability, the length of the growing season, alter agrobiodiversity, change the presence and severity of pests and diseases, heat stress in animals and availability of feed for livestock.

Technology and innovation are changing the face of agriculture. However, while in the Caribbean technology is becoming more readily available its use in the agriculture sector is behind the adoption curve. There is ample evidence to demonstrate how the technological revolution and innovation are helping to bolster production and efficiency, resilience and sustainability across agriculture value chains. To achieve higher production and improved productivity, the Caribbean must move towards adopting technological solutions, to achieve better results on and off farm.

Continuous investment in research and development is a necessity to increase agriculture production and productivity. Although agriculture research and development is recognised as a strategic investment that will yield returns in the short, medium and long term, it continues to be underfunded. Continuous investment will contribute to the development of climate-smart solutions, the development and introduction of higher-yielding and more nutritious and resilient crop varieties and animal breeds and sustainable land and water management practices at a faster rate. It will also assist the region to keep up to date with the latest technologies and make investments in the use of data management and analysis. The latter is especially scarce in the sector and remains a major hindrance to sound decision making and the timely sharing of relevant information with stakeholders.

With the Region now placing greater emphasis on increasing production and intra-regional trade to mitigate the impact of the pandemic and external shocks on the regional food supply chain, it is imperative that primary production and processing adhere to sound food safety principles and practices. Past studies have revealed that there's low capacity to comply with modern food safety and quality standards and as a result the agriculture sector has been unable to adequately respond to the rapidly growing demand for high-standard agri-food products from the tourism, processing, and retailing sectors, in and outside the region. The capacity of food producers and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) to comply with food safety standards is therefore needed if they are to capitalise on the new markets.



Future proofing Agri Food Systems in the Caribbean

CARICOM's population is projected to grow to 22 million by 2050. To ensure the population has access to nutritious, safe and affordable food and protect the livelihoods of those employed, the sector must become more productive and resilient to better cope with shocks and stresses.

In CARICOM the collective commitment among regional Governments towards reducing the Regional food import bill by 25% by 2025 while transforming the sector towards full commercialisation is a worthy initiative. The Institute is supportive of Vision 25 x 2025 and other regional and national initiatives targeting food and nutrition security and the development and expansion of the sector to foster economic growth and prosperity.

Regional governments must prioritise and increase public investments in agriculture research and development. Increased investments will contribute to the development of scalable innovative solutions needed to improve production, productivity, sustainability, efficiency and resilience. Without a significant boost in investments for research and development in agriculture, the Region's food systems will not be agile enough to respond to the challenges faced by producers and consumers and meet the food and nutrition security targets.

There is need for the players in the Region to move beyond primary production and exploit the many business opportunities the sector provides. These include value added product development, the supply of niche markets internationally and tapping into the growing tourism market within the Caribbean. For agro tourism, it goes beyond supplying the market with fresh produce, but now includes promoting the Caribbean's unique gastronomy, utilising our locally grown and indigenous foods.

Critical to promoting our self-sufficiency is the re energising of grow local and eat local food campaigns. A vigorous and widespread public education campaign on the benefits of locally produced indigenous foods and the value of consuming them is needed to drive this change.

Food production now more than ever must take place within the context of using climate smart practices and regenerative and nature based solutions which reduces the carbon footprint and protects the Region's rich natural capital and biodiversity. Furthermore, regional farmers must be better positioned to satisfy the growing consumer base that is demanding and supporting affordable, nutritious food produced under conditions that are environmentally and ethically friendly.

To achieve any food security targets, innovative technological solutions must be deployed along every step of the value chain. These would provide accurate information to guide decision making, improve production and productivity, reduce food loss and wastage and enhance efficiency along the value chain.

Women and youth are crucial to the development of the sector. Their participation in the sector must be encouraged and supported to exploit the opportunities available along the value chain. Providing training, financing and mentoring are necessary for wider participation of women and youth in agriculture. Their involvement are central to transformation of the sector, economic development and enhanced food and nutrition security.

We operate in a challengingly complex environment and fostering alliances and new multi-stakeholder partnerships will be crucial for the prosperity of the sector. Working together with development partners, regional institutions, governments, donors, investors, private sector, academia, financial institutions, innovators, farmers and civil society among others will ensure programmes, policies and actions are demand driven and responsive to stakeholders' needs.

CARDI'S Value Proposition

1

CARDI at 50 years old, has a longstanding presence and a deep understanding of agriculture in CARICOM.



50

As the only institution identified in the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas responsible for conducting agriculture research in CARICOM, the Institute has made impactful contributions to the development, promotion and adoption of innovative agriculture technologies, products and services in the sector over the years.

2



Among these are the development and introduction crop varieties and livestock breeds, production and supply of quality planting material to the farming community, introduction of improved technologies for soil and water management and integrated management strategies for several economically important pests and diseases, **extensive capacity building**



initiatives in a variety of disciplines and the promotion of climate smart agriculture strategies.



3



The Institute has a physical presence in 14 countries and collaborates with strategic players in the public and private sectors nationally, regionally and internationally. By leveraging these

partnerships we ensure the results of our work are relevant, practical and useful.

Through these partnerships we've been able to drive innovation and knowledge exchange, access technical expertise and new technologies that weren't readily available in the Region, share resources and provide international training opportunities for staff and stakeholders.

4

Our scientific staff encompasses a multi-disciplinary team of experts in the fields of **entomology, plant pathology, agronomy, animal production, animal nutrition, veterinary science, value chain and marketing, biotechnology, water resource management, agribusiness, climate change, agricultural economics, biometrics and project management.** Additional support is provided by a highly experienced and qualified team of administrative and technical professionals.



2 About the Strategic Plan

Some of the regional and international initiatives that framed this Strategic Plan include: CARICOM 25 x 2025 Initiative, CARICOM Secretariat Strategic Plan 2022-2030, Caribbean Community Program for Agriculture Development, Regional Policy for Food and Nutrition Security, CARICOM COVID-19 Agriculture Food and Action Plan, OECS Food and Agriculture Systems Transformation (FAST) Strategy, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement among others.

At 50 years old, CARDI is uniquely positioned to serve the research and development needs of the Caribbean countries, as the Institute boasts of diverse technical capacity, a wide geographical jurisdiction and the collective resolve of the policy environment.

The Strategic Plan 2024-2028 was developed in compliance with the mandate given at the Eighteenth Special Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), that the CARICOM Secretariat (CCS) “Expedite the full implementation of the Result Based Management (RBM) System, which should be the tool used by all Community Bodies, Organs and Agencies.”

CARDI has embraced the opportunity to further integrate RBM system elements, oriented towards not only delivering results, but creating impacts that matter, to the people of the Region. This results-oriented Strategic Plan 2024-2028 will serve as the basis for the development/revision of work programmes (unit and individual), performance measurement frameworks, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation functions.

The Institute aims to impact frontally on the pressing issues in regional agriculture, particularly, food security and nutrition and climate change. Utilising a modified Results Based Management (RBM) model, the Plan is rooted in a thorough analysis of the institute’s performance over the last strategic period (2018 – 2023).

At 50 years old, CARDI is uniquely positioned to serve the research and development needs of the Caribbean countries, as the Institute boasts of diverse technical capacity, a wide geographical jurisdiction and the collective resolve of the policy environment.



Strategic Pillar

1

Innovative Tech-driven Agri-solutions



Research Scientist,
NAREI, Guyana.
© D. Besai/CARDI

This external-facing priority captures the core business of CARDI. The goal is to build a sustainable CARICOM agri-food supply system, with an empowered and competitive Agri-business Sector that is profitable and resilient.

Most recent data estimates that the regional food import bill is US\$6 Billion annually. This reveals there is a huge potential of the regional agri-food industry to reduce imports through increased production and import displacement initiatives.

CARICOM has reinforced its commitment towards regional food security and reduction of the region's food import bill through its 25 x 2025 initiative and to bolster intra-regional agricultural trade and transport as verbalised in the CARICOM Community Agriculture Policy (CAP, 2011), and the CARICOM Strategic Plan 2022-2030. As the only Institution articulated in the revised Treaty of Chaguaramas responsible for agriculture research and development in the Caribbean, CARDI has a pivotal role to play in the achievement of the 25 x 2025 agenda and other developmental targets including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on hunger, climate resilience and poverty.

Under Strategic Pillar 1, research and development programmes are designed to address production gaps and develop the value chains of key priority commodities as identified by the Ministerial Task Force (MTF) for import replacement and towards full commercialisation. Other key outcomes

of this Pillar include a more climate resilient sector, enhanced regional food and nutrition security and a sound, stable and competitive Agri-food value chain.

To achieve this, CARDI will pursue a number of new and ongoing initiatives including:

- Increasing production and productivity for targeted commodities,
- Expanding regional small ruminants programme,
- Propagating climate resilient crop varieties, and
- Training in farmer extension programmes.

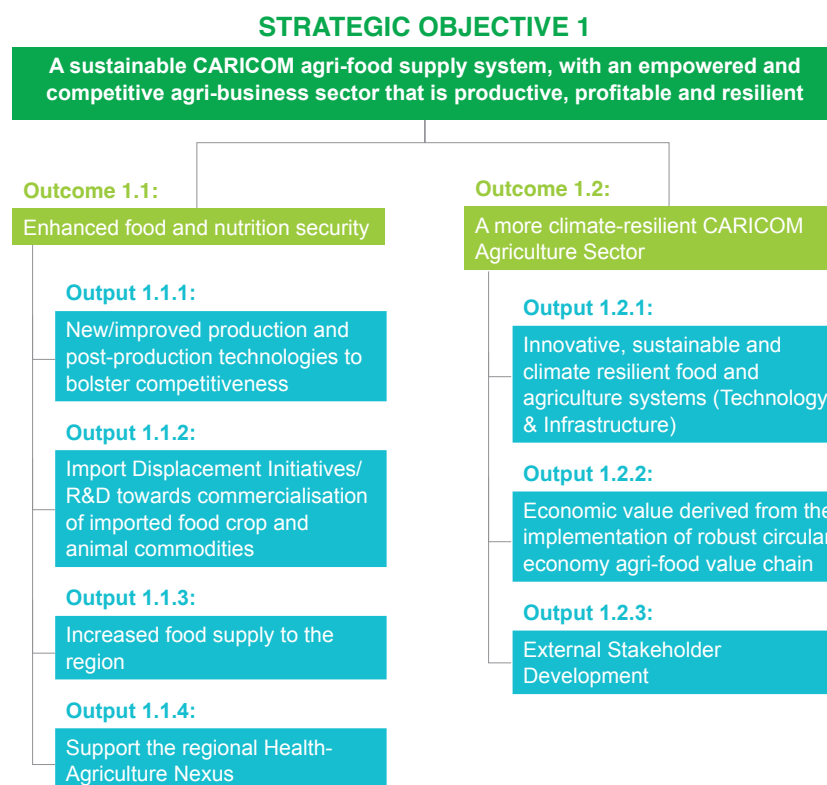
The Innovative Tech-driven Agri-solutions pillar intends to mobilise intentional disruptive actions towards increasing regionally produced food and reinforcing current CARICOM and national policies. It is purposefully designed to respond to emerging trends, current challenges and aspirations including:

- Boosting nutritious food grown on thriving farms to combat malnutrition.
- Reducing the regional burgeoning Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) crisis.
- Promoting sound, stable and progressive agri-food businesses.
- Exploring the importance of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the economic fabric in the region.

The Innovative Tech-driven Agri-solutions Pillar gives consideration to a wide range of initiatives including:

- Creating value through a competitive and sustainable regional food value chain.
- Transitioning subsistence farming to commercial farming.
- Removal of barriers through national legislation to support regional policy.
- Presenting viable opportunities to vulnerable youth.
- Stimulating participation by rural women and girls, while not excluding our men.

Figure 2: Strategic Pillar 1 - Innovative Tech-driven Agri-Solutions



Strategic Pillar

2

Communication, Public Education, Knowledge Dissemination and Advocacy



Development of communication aids, St. Vincent and the Grenadines. © D. Jackson/CARDI

This is the second external facing priority. This pillar places the spotlight on the dissemination of the research output of CARDI coupled with a strengthening of the Institute's brand.

Our future is marked by changing environmental conditions, a growing human population, and uncertain socioeconomic dynamics. Agricultural producers are using an increasingly wider range of online resources and communication tools to connect with consumers and each other. Thus, effective communication plays an integral role in CARDI's strategies towards regional food security. Properly coordinated communications channels and tools can combat the current information asymmetry through organised information dissemination to fill the knowledge gaps in the system. Effective dissemination of knowledge products ensures not only efficient distribution, but it also raises awareness, and encourages collaborative linkages between the Institute and its internal and external stakeholders.

The overarching goal is for CARDI to be recognised as the premier knowledge centre for regional agriculture. This will require improvement in the quality, relevance and accessibility of the wide range of knowledge products made available to Agri stakeholders through multiple channels.

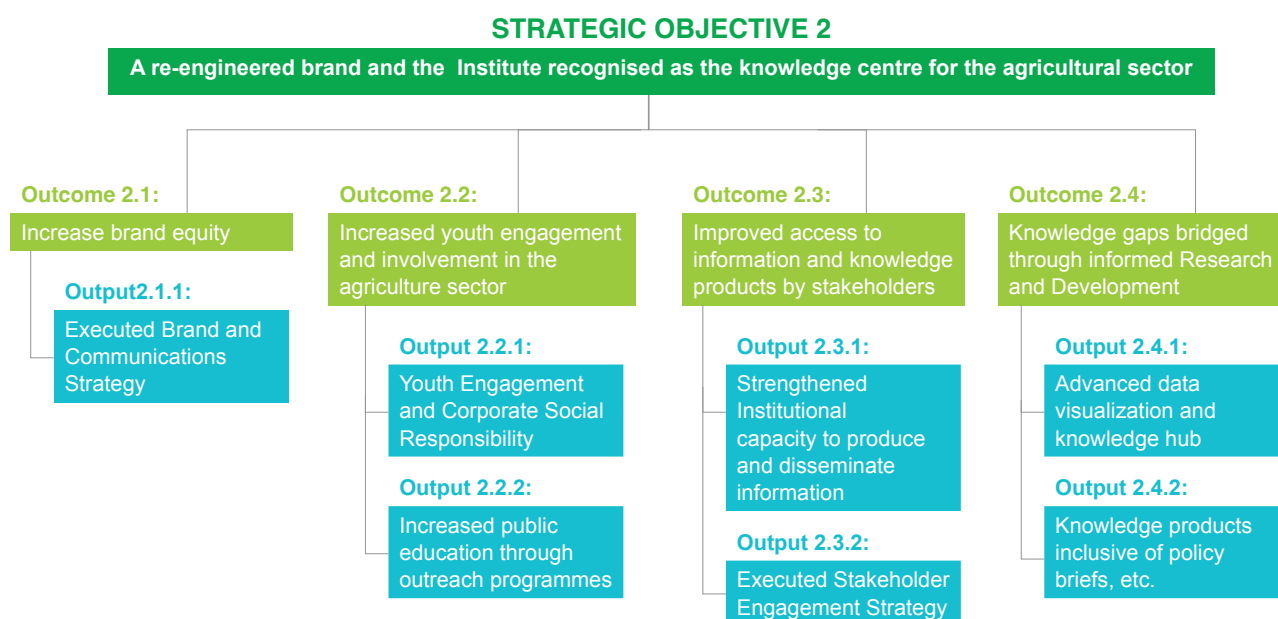
This pillar also places the spotlight on the dissemination of research outputs of the Institute. Public education and knowledge diffusion provide the channels through which research is disseminated, as well as the means through which the research agenda may be formed.

Some of the key initiatives include a revamped brand and communications strategy, a regional outreach and public

education strategy, a dynamic youth in agriculture programme and augmenting the CARDI knowledge products portal.

CARDI is presented with an opportune time to establish itself as the industry leader, with fifty (50) years of expertise in the region. In addition, the organisation is well poised to explore its competitive advantage with the creation of new revenue streams and exploring its non-customers.

Figure 3: Strategic Pillar 2 - Communication, Public Education, Knowledge Dissemination and Advocacy



Strategic Pillar

3

Digital Transformation



Drone over agriculture field.
© Freepik

This pillar is all pervasive and will impact every aspect of the Institute's business, both internal and external. Digital Transformation in this context refers to maximising the use of digital tools and systems to improve efficiency and business performance.

The deployment of technology is seen as a critical enabler in meeting the global challenge of increasing supply to mitigate food shortages in an environment of burgeoning demand.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) implications for the regional agri-food sector is vast and is critical for achieving the CARICOM food security agenda. The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (UN-FAO) estimates that, at current consumption rates, by 2050, we will need to produce 70% more food while accessing only 5% more farms. The key to provisioning for the increased food demand is not scale (with limited land availability) but efficiency. Technology is the biggest enabler in the process and that makes digital transformation of both CARDI and the sector, an imperative for growth.

It goes far beyond the simple provision of cloud-based solutions and computerising some processes. The objective is to maximise the use of digital tools to improve efficiency and business performance. Once effectively executed, CARDI's digital transformation will create economic value by significantly improving efficiency by automating manual processes, reducing errors, and improving productivity. The Institute's research excellence will be also harnessed by deploying advanced digital technologies.

The goal is to leverage ICT to drive innovation, research excellence and operational efficiency at CARDI, while building the digital maturity level of regional agriculture.

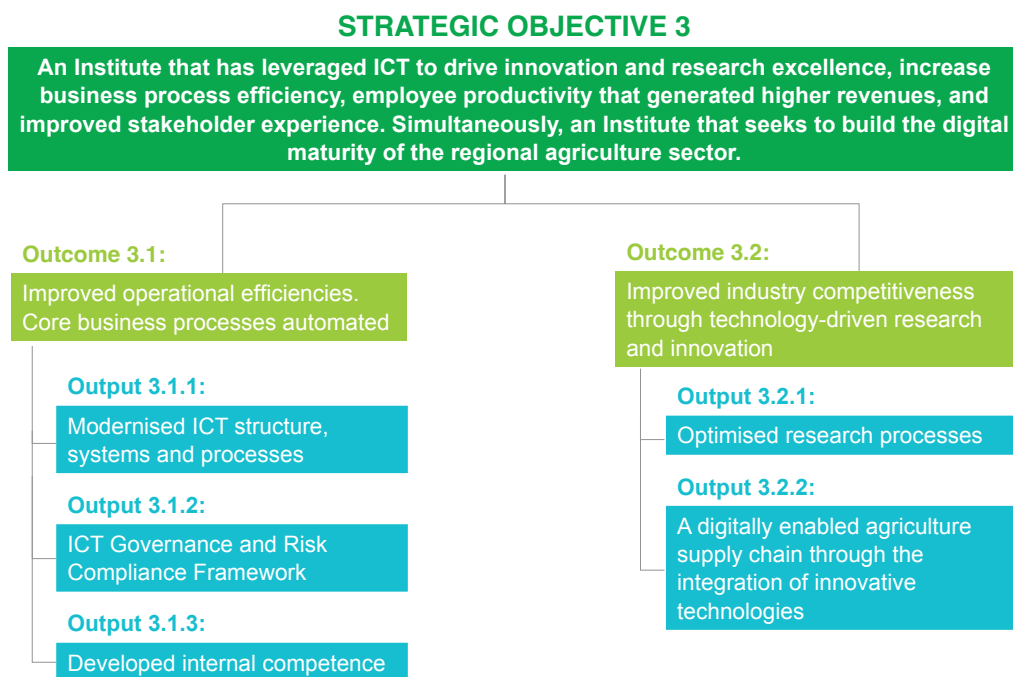
Some of the expected outputs from this priority include:

- A modernised ICT infrastructure across the region
- Improved ICT governance framework
- Optimised business processes and a
- Digitally enabled regional agricultural supply chain

Some important initiatives to be pursued include-:

- Digitisation and IT investment strategy
- CARDI ICT Policy and Charter and the
- Digital agriculture and climate smart farming architecture.

Figure 4: Strategic Pillar 3 - Digital Transformation



Strategic Pillar

4

Institutional Strengthening



Partners working to develop the coconut industry in Barbados. © International Trade Centre (ITC)



Institutional strengthening is the fourth priority area for CARDI. The goal is to build a fit for purpose organisation. This means an organisation with the capability and capacity to support the strategic pillars identified in the other three (3) priority areas. Emphasis is placed on resource mobilisation, human capital development and empowerment and infrastructure improvements.

With respect to resource mobilisation, CARDI envisages a secure financial future through the successful pursuit of a growth path to reduce dependency on government subventions. Under this sub programme, important outcomes include:

- Enhancing long term value through business development and
- Expanding research and development projects funded by non-traditional sources/donors.

As a research institution, CARDI is cognisant that developing its human capital in areas such as science, education, and management, directly result in increases in innovation, social well-being, equality, increased productivity, improved rates of participation, all of which contribute to business growth. This priority seeks to address some key elements of building CARDI's human resources and capability to ensure good governance of the institution. These include strengthening the governance framework, proactive corporate risk management, performance assessment, and continuing education.

CARDI strives to be the region's leading scientific institute, providing competitive, applicable and relevant solutions to the regional agri-sector. Good infrastructure, facilities and equipment play a vital role in the productivity, competitiveness, and sustainability of the agriculture sector.

The objectives of this priority focus on improving maintenance, improving the stakeholders' experience – both internal and external, improving safety performance, and operating efficiency.

The goal is to create a more enabling work environment that improves business operations and stakeholder experience.

Some key initiatives include:

- Refurbishment of offices,
- Improvement in the maintenance and Health, Safety, Security and Environment (HSSE) processes, and
- Upgrading of research and development facilities and equipment.

Figure 5: Strategic Pillar 4.1 - Resource Mobilisation

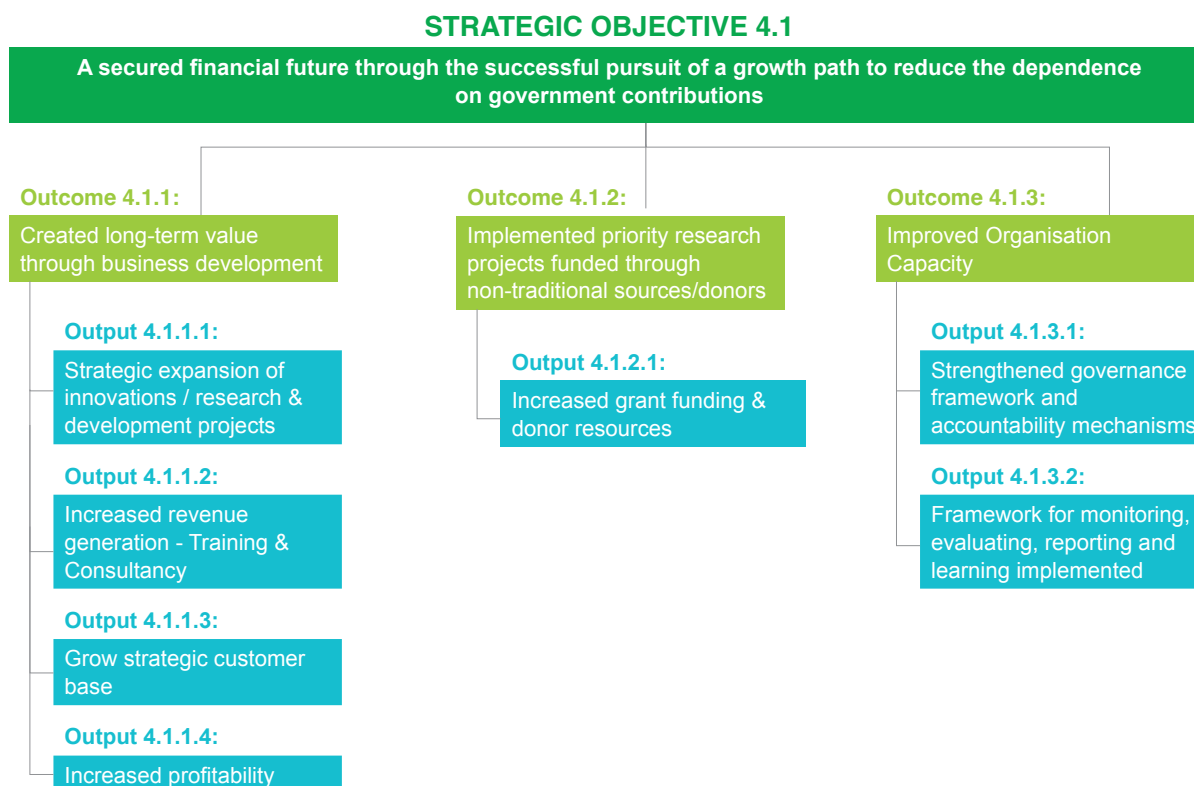


Figure 6: Strategic Pillar 4.2 - Human Capital Development and Empowerment

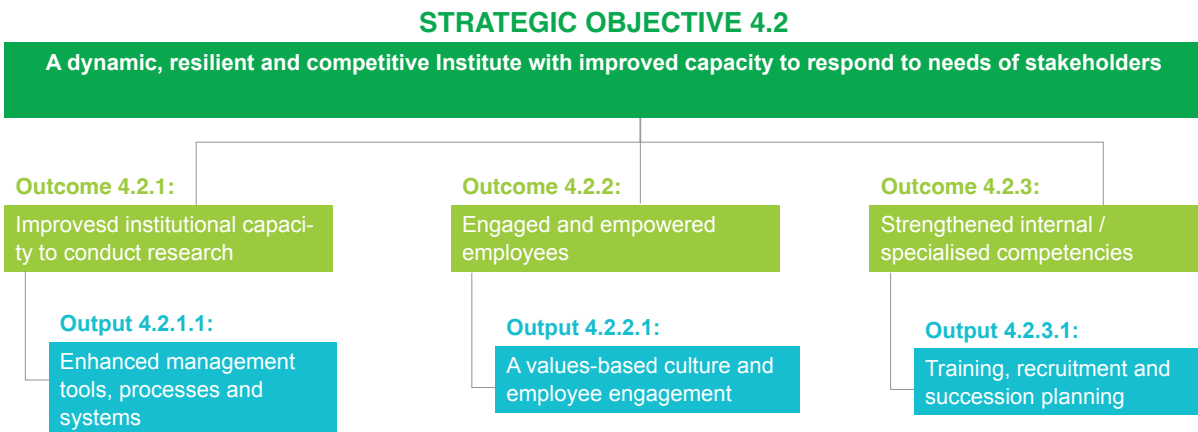
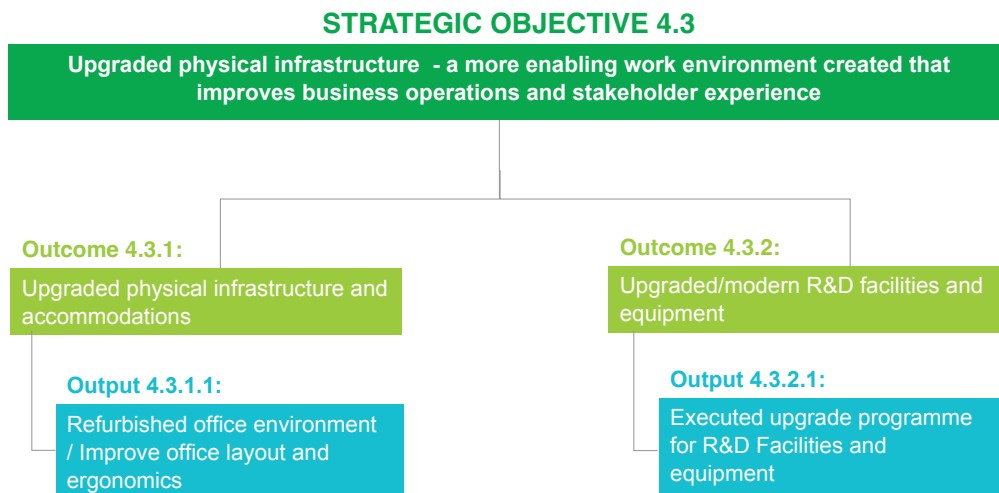


Figure 7: Strategic Pillar 4.3 - Infrastructure Improvements

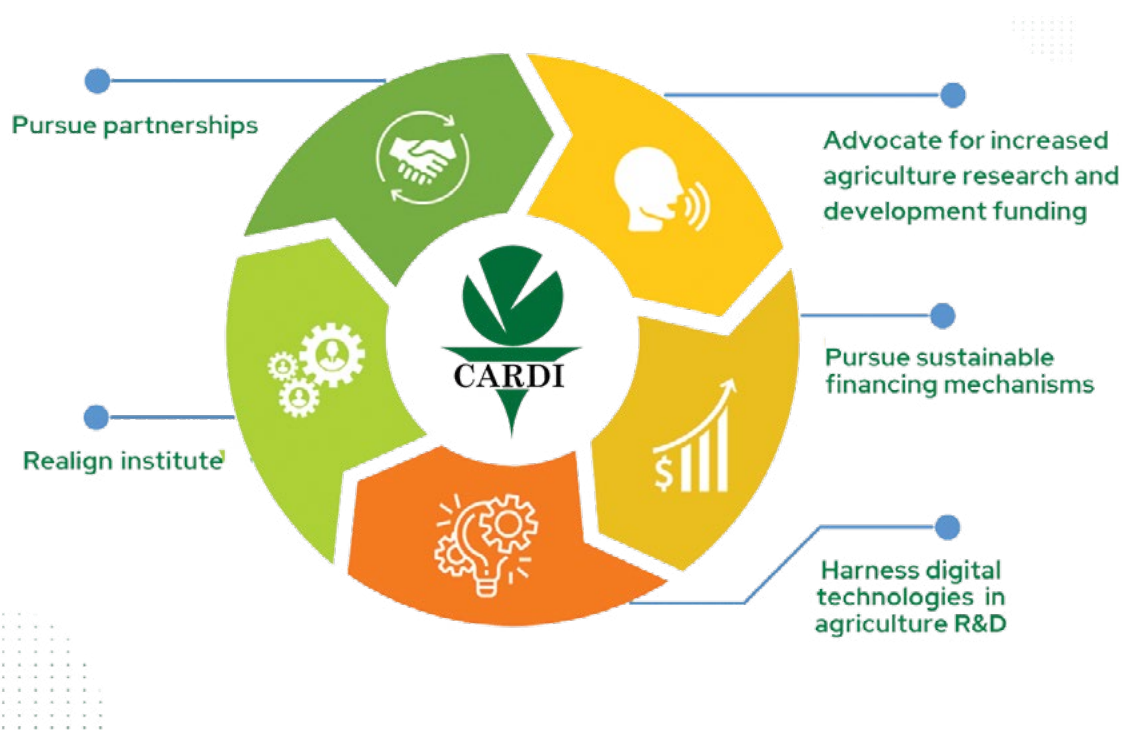


3 Implementation of the Strategic Plan and Way Forward

To achieve the mission – and the desired results across all 4 Strategic Pillars, during the Strategic Period, the Institute will:

- Advocate for increased funding for agricultural research and development in the Region. Continuous research and development is a necessity to increase production and productivity.
- Pursue sustainable financing approaches to reposition the Institute and drive transformation of the sector. Through this, CARDI will be better able to provide the science based evidence to guide the development of innovative solutions, technologies and knowledge products to reposition regional agriculture.
- Engage in partnerships with national entities, regional bodies, international organisations, development agencies, academia, private sector and other institutions to co-design and co-implement work programmes aligned to national and regional priorities and relevant to the needs of stakeholders.
- Adopt, harness and promote digital technologies in agriculture research and development projects and improve overall efficiency and business performance.
- Realign the operational structure of the Institute to achieve improved efficiency, responsiveness and effectiveness.

Figure 8: Implementation of Strategic Plan



Get in Touch

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Irrigation using Rain Gun, Trinidad and Tobago. © T. Sampson



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