

TERMS OF REFERENCE**Supporting Food Security in CARICOM through Trade and Integration
(RG-T4429)****COMPONENT 1: Diagnostic studies****1. Background**

- 1.1 The Caribbean region is substantially heterogeneous in terms of population size, GDP structure, net food trade position, and exposure to food insecurity. In terms of production and trade structure, some smaller island states like Barbados and The Bahamas are net food importers. Some medium-size countries like Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago have some agricultural base and food production but are still net food importers. Others, such as Guyana and Suriname, feature a more balanced food net trade position, but have ample land available and an opportunity to boost agricultural production and export capacity. The agriculture, fisheries, and forestry sector in most Caribbean countries, except for Guyana at this time, contributed less than 10% of the value added to the country's GDP in 2021.¹
- 1.2 At the same time, food insecurity has risen in the Caribbean since 2015.² Higher frequency of external shocks, food and energy inflation, and the pandemic – in a context of structural trade slowdown and growing fragmentation³ - have increased hunger in the Caribbean with over 16% of the population affected.⁴ Field studies reveal that 64% of the surveyed population experienced moderate or severe food insecurity in 2021, before food prices skyrocketed.⁵ A recent report from the World Bank found that at least four Caribbean countries – Dominican Republic, Guyana, Haiti, and Suriname – have experienced food price increases higher than 5 percent every month between March 2021-2022. Suriname is one of the worst affected countries globally, having witnessed food price increases of over 30 percent in this period.⁶
- 1.3 Before the pandemic, the food import bill already accounted for a large share of total goods exports receipts in most of the economies of the region. In countries such as Barbados, net food imports represented over 5% of GDP. The war in the Ukraine, and the ensuing food (and energy) inflation, thus exposed a major structural weakness of Caribbean economies.⁷ This suggests that exposure to trade is not only part of the food insecurity problem, but a necessary part of the solution. To leverage external markets for food security at home, it is important to act on the short- and long-term determinants of the cost of the food import bill.
- 1.4 This TC requires the support of specialized consultants, both individual and firms.

¹ World Bank (2021).

² FAO (2022a). The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World.

³ Giordano et al., (2022). Shockwaves: Latin America and the Caribbean facing global trade turmoil.

⁴ UN (2022).

⁵ FAO et al., (2023).

⁶ [World Bank \(2022\)](#)

⁷ Giordano and Michalczewsky (2022). The trade fallout of the war in Ukraine on Latin America and the Caribbean, Policy Brief N. 365.

2. Consultancy objective(s)

- 2.1 Given that each country's food system is unique, the objective is to undertake national diagnostics on the challenges related to food security. Recommendations will be related to sustainable trade policy, trade barriers (tariff and non-tariff), trade facilitation, sustainable investment facilitation, quality infrastructure (sanitary and phytosanitary, technical standards), and regulatory and institutional reform. These diagnostics will be done in the beneficiary countries of this TC.

3. Scope of Services

- 3.1. The primary activities to be undertaken by the consultants are to:
- a. Desktop review of previous diagnostics on the trade-related challenges to food security. These include tangential studies done on global or regional value chains in agriculture, agricultural sector assessments etc.
 - b. Conduct an assessment of the export opportunities for the agricultural and food processing sector, along with the availability of domestic linkages for same goods.
 - c. Assess the import basket to identify goods which are critical to food security; calculate the cost of trade barriers on these goods (trade policy, tariff and non-tariff barriers, trade facilitation, regulatory restrictions).
 - d. Identify the barriers faced by exporters in new markets or in increasing supply to existing markets of goods critical to food security. Calculate the cost of trade barriers on these goods (trade policy, tariff and non-tariff barriers, trade facilitation, regulatory restrictions).
 - e. Provide recommendations on reducing these costs for imports and exports
 - f. Develop an action plan for further actions and provide a preliminary estimation of cost of future investments. Identify potential sources for financing of these investments, whether they are public, private or PPP.

4. Expected Outcomes and Deliverables

- 4.1. The expected outcome is a comprehensive diagnostic assessment with a set of clear recommendations on steps for increasing food security in CARICOM countries.
- 4.2. The deliverables are as follows:

Number	Deliverables
1	Inception report
2	Missions (fact-finding and presentation of draft final report)
3	Mission report (3 countries; initial fact-finding only)
4	Progress Report 1; national diagnostic by country (3 countries)
5	Progress Report 2; national diagnostic and recommendations per country
6	Draft reports with diagnostic, recommendations, and action plan
7	Final reports, incorporating all activities and inclusive of an executive summary
8	Powerpoint presentations

All deliverables should be sent in both Word and PDF format (and in ppt) and should be carefully and professionally edited and crafted, using graphics and data visualization where appropriate.

5. Project Schedule and Milestones

- 5.1. Inception report (within 2 weeks of contract signature)
- 5.2. Fact-finding Missions (within 6 weeks of contract signature)
- 5.3. Mission report (within 1 week of fact-finding missions)
- 5.4. Progress Report 1 (within 12 weeks of contract signature)
- 5.5. Progress Report 2 (within 18 weeks of contract signature)
- 5.6. Draft Report (within 24 weeks of contract signature)
- 5.7. Final report + powerpoint presentations and missions (within 36 weeks of contract signature)

6. Acceptance Criteria

- 6.1. Criteria for acceptance will be based on review by team leaders.

7. Supervision and Reporting

- 7.1. The coordination of consultant work will be managed by Krista Lucenti (INT/TIN).

8. Schedule of Payments

- 8.1. Payment terms will be based on project milestones or deliverables.

Payment Schedule	
Deliverable	%
1. Signature of the contract	10%
2. Delivery and approval of the inception report, mission and mission report (5.1-5.3)	25%
3. Delivery and approval of progress reports (5.4-5.5)	25%
4. Delivery and approval of the draft final report	20%
5. Delivery and approval of final report & final mission/workshop	20%
TOTAL	100%

9. Characteristics of the Consultancy

- a) Type of consultancy: Consulting Firm
- b) Starting date and duration: October 2024, duration 12 months to begin at contract signature.
- c) Place of work: Offices of the consulting firm. Two (2) trip/missions will be required.
- d) Citizenship: The consulting firm must be from an IDB member country.

10. Firm Qualifications

10.1. An established track record showing the ability to carry out diagnostics and gap analyses. Previous experience in advising clients on issues related to trade facilitation, trade policy, food security, and logistics is also required. Demonstrated capability of the consulting firm to successfully execute projects of a similar nature.

10.2. The key experts required for the consulting firm's team, and their minimum qualifications and experience are:

- Key Expert No. 1: Port and Logistics Specialist
 - *Education:* MA/MS in Economics, Trade, Logistics, Transportation or related field
 - *Experience:* At least 15 years of experience in economic analysis and/or project management logistics operations, supply chain management, and trade logistics. Previous relevant professional experience in customs and border processes and logistics in developing countries is required. If proposed as Team Leader, experience must include being Team Leader in at least 2 projects of a similar nature in developing countries.
- Key Expert No. 2: Agricultural Trade Specialist
 - *Education:* MA/MS in Economics, Trade, Logistics, Agriculture or related field
 - *Experience:* At least 15 years of experience in analyzing trade-related agricultural policies and facilitation. If proposed as Team Leader, experience must include being Team Leader in at least 2 projects of a similar nature in developing countries.

- Key Expert No. 3: Customs Specialist
 - *Education:* MA/MS in Economics or equivalent qualification for Customs' officials.
 - *Experience:* At least 10 years' experience working in a national Customs' agency or in Customs' related activities for international organizations or consulting firms.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Supporting Food Security in CARICOM through Trade and Integration (RG-T4429)

COMPONENT 3: Technical Coordination

1. Background

- 1.1. The Caribbean region is substantially heterogeneous in terms of population size, GDP structure, net food trade position, and exposure to food insecurity. In terms of production and trade structure, some smaller island states like Barbados and The Bahamas are net food importers. Some medium-size countries like Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago have some agricultural base and food production but are still net food importers. Others, such as Guyana and Suriname, feature a more balanced food net trade position, but have ample land available and an opportunity to boost agricultural production and export capacity. The agriculture, fisheries, and forestry sector in most Caribbean countries, except for Guyana at this time, contributed less than 10% of the value added to the country's GDP in 2021.⁸
- 1.2. At the same time, food insecurity has risen in the Caribbean since 2015.⁹ Higher frequency of external shocks, food and energy inflation, and the pandemic – in a context of structural trade slowdown and growing fragmentation¹⁰ - have increased hunger in the Caribbean with over 16% of the population affected.¹¹ Field studies reveal that 64% of the surveyed population experienced moderate or severe food insecurity in 2021, before food prices skyrocketed.¹² A recent report from the World Bank found that at least four Caribbean countries – Dominican Republic, Guyana, Haiti, and Suriname – have experienced food price increases higher than 5 percent every month between March 2021-2022. Suriname is one of the worst affected countries globally, having witnessed food price increases of over 30 percent in this period.¹³
- 1.3. Before the pandemic, the food import bill already accounted for a large share of total goods exports receipts in most of the economies of the region. In countries such as Barbados, net food imports represented over 5% of GDP. The war in the Ukraine, and the ensuing food (and energy) inflation, thus exposed a major structural weakness of Caribbean economies.¹⁴ This suggests that exposure to trade is not only part of the food insecurity problem, but a necessary part of the solution. To leverage external markets for food security at home, it is important to act on the short- and long-term determinants of the cost of the food import bill.
- 1.4. This TC requires the support of specialized consultants, both individual and firms.

⁸ World Bank (2021).

⁹ FAO (2022a). The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World.

¹⁰ Giordano et al., (2022). Shockwaves: Latin America and the Caribbean facing global trade turmoil.

¹¹ UN (2022).

¹² FAO et al., (2023).

¹³ [World Bank \(2022\)](#)

¹⁴ Giordano and Michalczewsky (2022). The trade fallout of the war in Ukraine on Latin America and the Caribbean, Policy Brief N. 365.

The team:

The Integration and Trade Sector (INT) advises management on trade and regional development issues, as well as overall Bank strategies and programs in these areas. It is also responsible for policy-relevant research on regional and global economic integration issues and trends, as well as specialized technical sector support to trade and integration-related operations and activities. The Trade and Investment Division is charged with initiating and executing the sector's operational portfolio.

What you'll do:

- Oversee the production of status reports, communication with all relevant stakeholders, logistical and content-related organization of any necessary meetings and outreach activities, and any necessary supporting research for other activities of RG-T4429 and other relevant operations.
- Help support the organization of events specified under this technical cooperation.

Deliverables:

- Monthly Progress Reports
- Reports on all workshops

Payment schedule:

- Progress Reports (I-III) – after 90 days after contract signature: 30%
- Progress Reports (IV-IX) – after 240 days after contract signature 50%
- Progress Reports (X-XII) – after 365 days after contract signature 20%

Education: Master's degree in economics, international relations or equivalent. PhD an asset.

Experience: A minimum of five to eight years of relevant professional experience in trade, trade facilitation and/or investment attraction.

Languages: English

Core and Technical Competencies:

The consultant must have a strong background in international trade, transport and international affairs. Experience working on IDB operations, technical cooperation, and initiatives with specific focus on either trade or investment attraction considered an asset.

Opportunity Summary:

- Type of contract and modality: CNS
- Length of contract: 24 months
- Starting date: October 2024
- Location: The consultant's residence.
- Responsible person: Krista Lucenti (INT/TIN)
- Requirements: You must be a citizen of one of the [IDB's 48 member countries](#) and have no family members currently working at the IDB Group.

Our culture: Working with us you will be surrounded by a diverse group of people who have years of experience in all types of development fields, including transportation, health, gender and diversity, communications and much more.

About us: At the Inter-American Development Bank, we're devoted to improving lives. Since 1959, we've been a leading source of long-term financing for economic, social, and institutional development in Latin America and the Caribbean. We do more than lending though. We partner with our 48 member countries to provide Latin America and the Caribbean with cutting-edge research about relevant development issues, policy advice to inform their decisions, and technical assistance to improve on the planning and execution of projects. For this, we need people who not only have the right skills, but also are passionate about improving lives.

Payment and Conditions: Compensation will be determined in accordance with Bank's policies and procedures. The Bank, pursuant to applicable policies, may contribute toward travel and moving expenses. In addition, candidates must be citizens of an IDB member country.

Visa and Work Permit: The Bank, pursuant to applicable policies, may submit a visa request to the applicable immigration authorities; however, the granting of the visa is at the discretion of the immigration authorities. Notwithstanding, it is the responsibility of the candidate to obtain the necessary visa or work permits required by the authorities of the country(ies) in which the services will be rendered to the Bank. If a candidate cannot obtain a visa or work permit to render services to the Bank the contractual offer will be rescinded

Consanguinity: Pursuant to applicable Bank policy, candidates with relatives (including the fourth degree of consanguinity and the second degree of affinity, including spouse) working for the IDB, IDB Invest, or MIF as staff members or Complementary Workforce contractuales, will not be eligible to provide services for the Bank.

Diversity: The Bank is committed to diversity and inclusion and to providing equal opportunities to all candidates. We embrace diversity on the basis of gender, age, education, national origin, ethnic origin, race, disability, sexual orientation, and religion. We encourage women, Afro-descendants and persons of indigenous origins to apply.