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PRESS RELEASE

National Coconut Stakeholders Seminar and Market Fair 2023

Belmopan, December 6, 2023.

Today, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Enterprise, in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI), hosted the National Coconut Stakeholders Seminar and Market Fair 2023 at the CARDI compound in Central Farm.

The seminar focused on advancing Belize's coconut industry through launching the "One Country, One Priority Product" initiative, a five-year programme (2021-25) established by FAO. The programme promotes special agricultural products with unique qualities and characteristics at the global, regional, and local levels. These are products that can contribute to the transformation of more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems for better production, nutrition, environment, and life, leaving no one behind. Additionally, the event marked the closure of the Coconut Alliance Project with a comprehensive report shared with stakeholders. There was also the ceremonial handover of facilities constructed under the project from the International Trade Center to CARDI.

The occasion gathered representatives from diverse organizations, financial institutions, and companies dedicated to supporting farmers in pursuing a thriving coconut industry and fostering the growth and sustainability of Belize's agricultural landscape.

Ends

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