

FOOD HYGIENE BUREAU OF JAMAICA

Publisher, Food Sovereignty & Security Conference 2026

NATIONAL APPEAL FOR SPONSORSHIP FOOD SOVEREIGNTY & SECURITY CONFERENCE 2026

"Feeding Ourselves, Securing Our Future"

Dear Corporate Leaders, Development Partners, Agricultural Stakeholders, and Friends of Jamaica,

Jamaica stands at a defining moment in its history.

The devastation caused by Category 5 Hurricane Melissa exposed the vulnerability of our nation's food systems. Thousands of acres of farmland were damaged, water systems disrupted, crops destroyed, and livelihoods placed at risk. St. Elizabeth, long regarded as Jamaica's breadbasket, suffered significant losses, reminding us that food security can never be taken for granted.

Today, we are called to act.

The Food Hygiene Bureau of Jamaica is proud to convene the Food Sovereignty & Security Conference 2026, a national gathering dedicated to strengthening Jamaica's capacity to feed itself, conserve its natural resources, and build a resilient agricultural future for generations to come.

This conference is more than an event. It is a national conversation about survival, sustainability, and self-determination.

Food sovereignty means that Jamaicans must have the ability to determine how food is grown, distributed, accessed, and consumed within our own communities. It means supporting local farmers, protecting agricultural lands, conserving water resources, strengthening local markets, and reducing dependency on imported foods whenever possible.

Many Jamaicans are unaware that food sovereignty is not simply an agricultural issue—it is an economic issue, a health issue, a climate issue, a tourism issue, and ultimately a national security issue.

The time has come to bring this conversation to the people.

A National Call to Sponsors

We are inviting businesses, organizations, foundations, and community partners to sponsor the attendance of one (1) to five (5) farmers from every parish across Jamaica.

Our vision is simple:

- Every parish represented.
- Every farmer empowered.
- Every voice heard.

We further encourage each sponsored delegate to bring a friend, family member, youth representative, or community advocate so that the knowledge shared at the conference can spread throughout Jamaica's communities.

This gathering will provide an unprecedented opportunity for farmers and citizens to engage directly with policymakers, including representatives from the Ministries of Agriculture, Tourism, and the Ministry of Industry, Investment & Commerce, along with other agencies and stakeholders committed to strengthening Jamaica's food sovereignty and security.

Why Your Sponsorship Matters

By sponsoring delegates, your organization will:

- Invest directly in Jamaica's food resilience.
- Support rural economic development.
- Strengthen community-based agriculture.
- Promote climate-smart farming practices.
- Demonstrate corporate leadership during a time of recovery and rebuilding.

Bringing Food Sovereignty to the People

One of the key objectives of the conference is to demystify the concept of food sovereignty and translate it into practical actions at the community level.

Our goal is to create Food Sovereignty Ambassadors in every parish who can continue these conversations long after the conference concludes.

The Future We Must Build Together

The lessons of Hurricane Melissa are clear:

Resilience cannot be postponed.

Food security cannot be imported.

We invite you to stand with Jamaica's farmers.

We invite you to invest in community resilience.

We invite you to become a partner in safeguarding our nation's food sovereignty and security.

Together, we can transform crisis into opportunity and ensure that future generations inherit a stronger, more self-reliant Jamaica.

Yours in Service to Jamaica's Food Future,
Marva

Conference Convener
Food Sovereignty & Security Conference 2026
Food Hygiene Bureau of Jamaica

Conference Theme: "Feeding Ourselves, Securing Our Future"

Campaign Slogan: "Grow Jamaica. Feed Jamaica. Sustain Jamaica."