

Veterinary Services In Saint Lucia

21st November 2018

OIE 24th Regional Conference of the Americas

Punta Cana

Dominican Republic



About Saint Lucia

- Also called Helen of the West it is situated in the windward Island of the Lesser Antilles
- Nestled half way down the Eastern Caribbean Archipelago
- Population: approximately 178,000
- Area: 238 sq miles or 617 sq kilometers
- Capital: Castries
- 8 agricultural regions



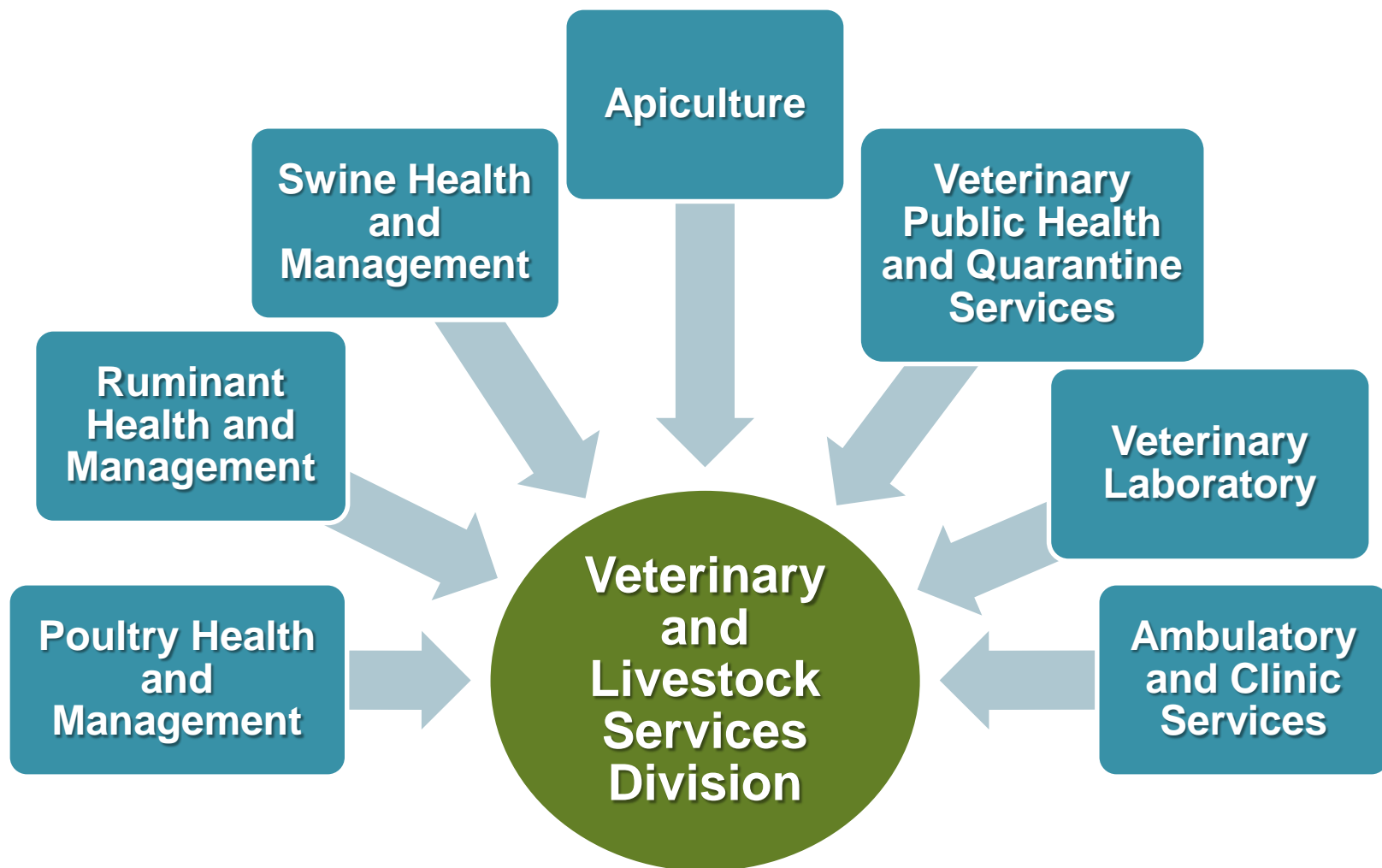
About Saint Lucia



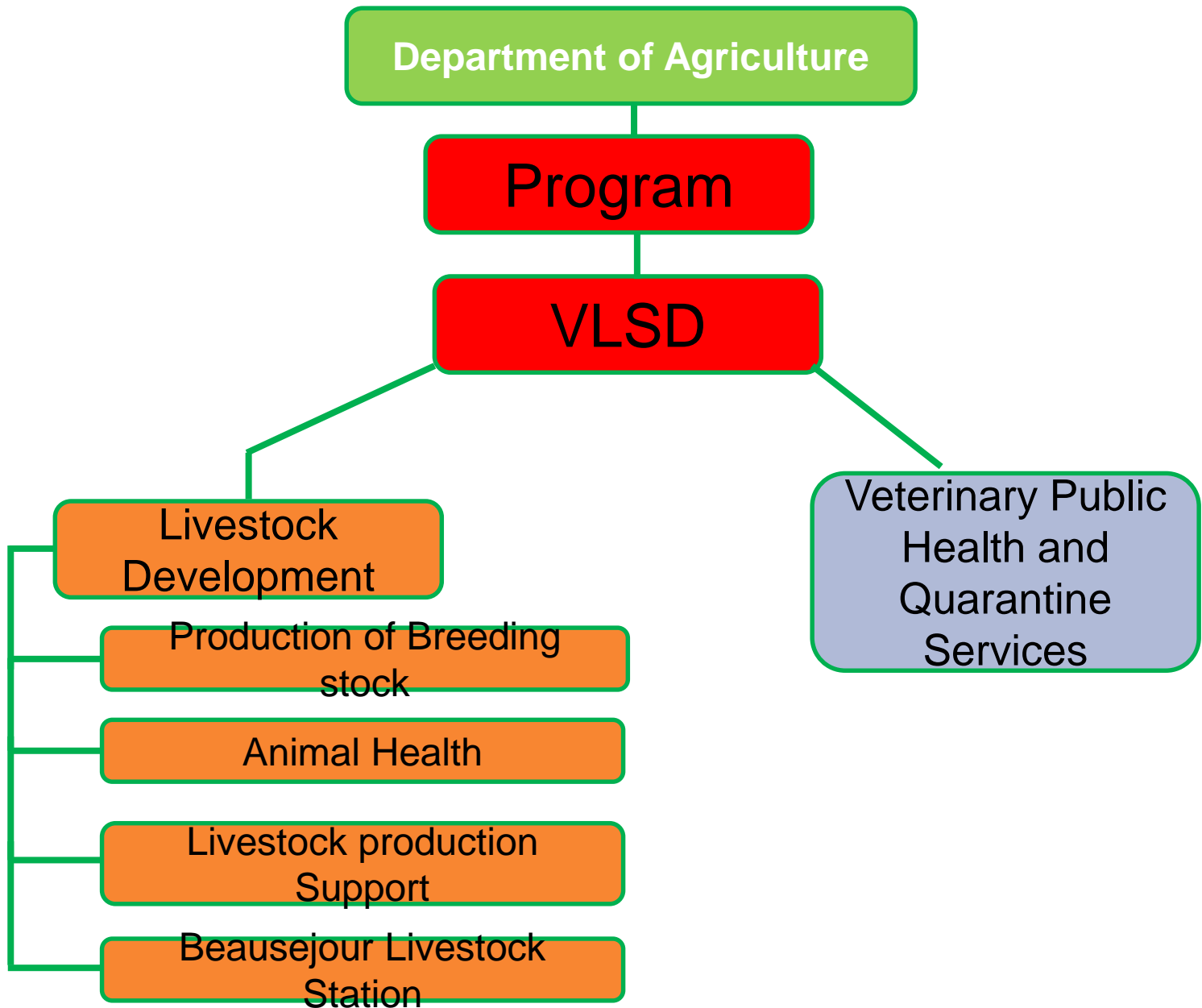
- Heavily dependent on tourism
- Home of one of the world's few drive in volcanos
- Known for the infamous Pitons



Key Responsibilities



Link - Programs and Divisions





Technical Staff Compliment (VLSD)

Field	Number	Remarks
Veterinary Officer	4	CVO (1) VO (1) AHO (2)
Animal Health Assistants	6	Ranging from grade 7 to grade 10 South (2) North (4)
Animal Nutritionist	1	AH background Stationed at BAS in the capacity of Farm Supervisor
Livestock Officers	2	North (1) South (1)
Production Officers	12	North (7) South (5)
Laboratory Personnel	2	North (2)
Tick Technicians	4	North (2) South (2)
Farm Manager	1	BAS

Qualifications of Technical Staff

Qualification	Number
Post Graduate studies	2
1 st degree	8
Associates degree	7
Diplomas	9
Certificates	1



Goal of VLSD

To increase livestock production, productivity and livestock product marketability, through:

- the provision of effective animal health, animal production
- quarantine and veterinary public health services
- the generation and transfer of appropriate technology with the promotion of good management practices that are cost effective.

Where We Were





Agriculture Sector

- ❖ **Saint Lucia enjoyed a preferential market for bananas in the UK which was guaranteed for many years.**
- ❖ **Livestock was not given the same level of attention and therefore was practiced as subsistence farming.**
- ❖ **Establishment of the WTO in 1995 brought with it the end to all preferential treatment or their phased dissolution.**
- ❖ **As a result many withdrew from agriculture entirely.**
- ❖ **The diversification of the agricultural sector is one of the viable alternatives to drive the economy away from the banana monoculture.**

Diversification

- The development of the Livestock subsector has been identified as an essential component of the Agricultural diversification thrust.
- As a result a diagnostic study was done on the Livestock industry and the output of the study was the Livestock Development Programme (LDP).



Constraints Identified in Livestock Sector

- **High Cost of Production**
- **Competition with cheaper imported products**
- **Absence of quality standards of production, processing and marketing**
- **Absence of appropriate slaughtering, processing and marketing facilities**
- **The absence of effective livestock producer groups**
- **Poor adaptation of improved production systems**



Where We Are

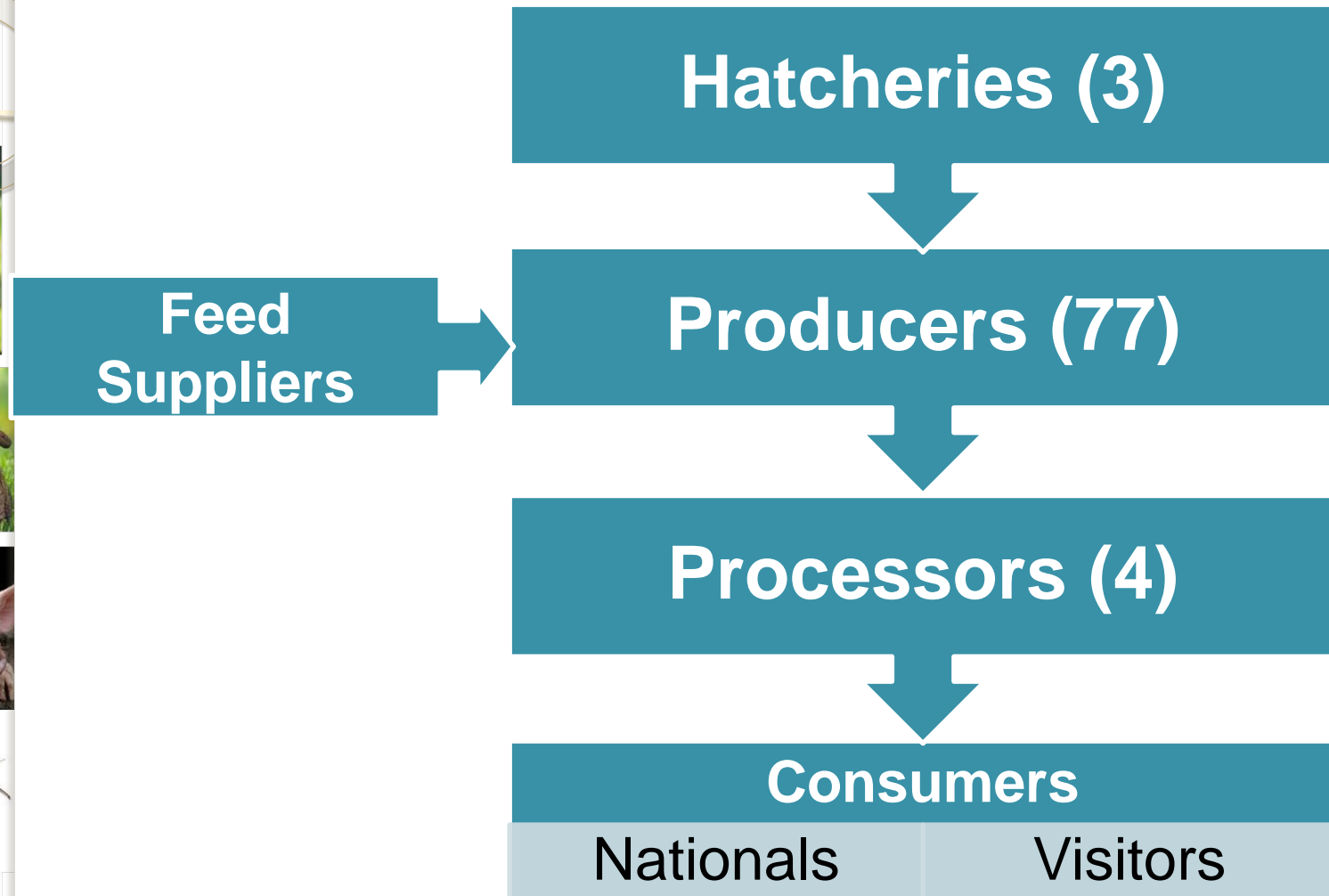


Poultry Sub-sector

- **The subsector has held its own and demonstrated positive growth over the last five economic reviews.**
- **It has tremendous potential of being a major contributor to agricultural diversification and agriculture's contribution to GDP.**
- **In 2017 the broiler population was estimated at approximately 1.2 million birds and the layers 196,823 birds (Vet Division).**
- **Presently Saint Lucia is self sufficient in table egg production.**



POULTRY INDUSTRY





Livestock Production (Reproductive herd)

Specie	Females	Males	Total
cattle			3000 to 5000
Caprine	2334	566	5370
Ovine	1005	298	2142
Swine	1987		13910





EC\$ 12.5
Million



1. Meat Processing Facility





MPF'S ANTICIPATED MAXIMUM THROUGHPUT

- Pigs: 630 per week
- Sheep/goats: 340 sheep, 190 goats
- Rabbits: 450 rabbits per week- *using the same butchering line as small ruminants*
- Cattle: 108 heads per week.



Plans and New Initiatives

- Regulate the Veterinary professionals and paraprofessional in Saint Lucia
- Strengthen and updating existing legislations
- Initiate and strengthen animal disease surveillance utilizing the services from the OIE of veterinary legislations
- Initiate PVS tool from OIE



Thank
You