



COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINICA

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Dominican Farmer Gilles Carbon-Jno Baptiste Named among FAO's 100 Women Heroes

Roseau, Dominica- August 26, 2026: Dominican farmer Gilles Carbon-Jno Baptiste has been selected as one of the inaugural Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) 100 Women Heroes in Agrifood Systems and Rural Development.

Mrs. Carbon-Jno Baptiste of Capuchin was selected following a highly competitive global process which attracted more than 600 nominations from 131 countries. According to the FAO, she distinguished herself through her leadership, dedication, innovation and tangible contribution to strengthening agrifood systems and improving the lives of rural communities.

A farmer for more than four decades, Mrs. Carbon-Jno Baptiste operates a seven-acre farm producing crops and livestock for the local market. Her production includes citrus, plantain, avocado, vegetables, turmeric, potatoes and onions, as well as goats, broilers and layers. She is a major supplier of fresh eggs and vegetables to supermarkets and local vendors.

Mrs. Carbon-Jno Baptiste has also distinguished herself through her commitment to sustainable agriculture. Her farming practices include green manuring, mixed farming, rainwater harvesting, reforestation, composting and the use of natural alternative inputs, while applying the principles of Good Agricultural Practices.

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries, Blue and Green Economy, Hon. Roland Royer welcomed the recognition, describing it as a proud achievement for Mrs. Carbon-Jno Baptiste and for Dominica's agricultural sector.

"Mrs. Carbon-Jno Baptiste represents the dedication, resilience and innovation of our farmers. For more than four decades, she has contributed to food production and to the development of other farmers and her community. We are extremely proud that her work has now received this important international recognition."

Mrs. Carbon-Jno Baptiste regularly supports agricultural training and demonstrations and serves as President of the Capuchin Farmers' Group. She is also involved in several community, cultural and civic organisations and was recognised in 2023 with the Best Woman in Sustainable Farming Award.

The FAO noted that her selection also reflects Dominica's commitment to supporting women as leaders, innovators, entrepreneurs, farmers and agents of change in agrifood systems. Her work contributes to food security, rural development, environmental sustainability, community resilience and economic opportunity.

Mrs. Carbon-Jno Baptiste will be celebrated at a special awards ceremony during the World Food Forum flagship event at FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy, from October 12–16, 2026.

The recognition forms part of activities marking the International Year of the Woman Farmer 2026, highlighting the contribution of women to more inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems.

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