Labs Upgraded to Analyse Sugar, Salt and Fat in Food Products

- For the first time, Jamaica will have the capacity to analyse the sugar, salt and fat content of food products.
- This follows the upgrading of laboratories of the Bureau of Standards Jamaica (BSJ) and the Scientific Research Council (SRC), to conduct these tests, at a cost of $20 million, through funding from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada.
- The upgraded labs were officially launched on August 27, 2019.
- Minister Tufton, said this historically significant initiative will assist the Government in its drive to reduce the high prevalence of NCDs.
Policy supports in JAMAICA: 2021 Sectoral Debate in Parliament

- Minister Tufton reported to Parliament on FaN project-supported laboratory analysis:
  - 39% of foods tested contained trans-fats.
  - Half of those with trans fats had labels which stated “trans fat free”
    - Likely dumping from USA and other countries which have already banned trans fats
- 2022 FaN intervention with National Food Industry Task Force, starting with importers of oils
- Prof Henry presented “Towards a liveable minimum wage in Jamaica” based on the FaN vulnerability analysis to the Minimum Wage Commission.