



**SIXTH MEETING OF THE STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE
AMERICAS
OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN**

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**REPORT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY
(CARICOM) COOPERATION ACTIVITIES
IN STATISTICS**

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OVERVIEW

- **Background – Support for Strengthening of Statistical Capacity in CARICOM;**
- **Section I: Cooperation Activities in Social and Environment Statistics and the 2010 Population and Housing Census;**
- **Section II: Cooperation Activities and Initiatives in Economic and ICT Statistics;**
- **Section III: Cooperation Activities in Other General Areas related to Statistical Development;**
- **Conclusions.**



BACKGROUND

Support for Strengthening Capacity:

- European Community – Ninth European Development Fund (CISP) in 2007 to 2011.
- UNSD/Eurostat support to 2008 SNA Implementation Strategy
- Inter-American Development Fund (IDB)- three Regional Public Goods Project of which one is jointly with the UNFPA;
- DFID/UNSD support to the Common Census Framework;
- UNICEF Devinfo Implementation



BACKGROUND

Approach to Cooperation Activities in Statistics in CARICOM

- The regionally coordinated approach to the execution of cooperation activities is a well-established and proven strategy in the Region and was first used to assist countries in census-taking.
- This approach utilises uniform concepts and definitions and a common core of region-specific relevant issues/questions to support the collection of policy-relevant data.



Section I: 2010 Census:

- **Continued to provide support to countries under the regional census strategy including:**
 - ❖ **Mapping/GIS through a DFID Consultant;**
 - ❖ **Data Processing - Regional Workshops and Consultancy In-country technical assistance – visits/remote access , Advocacy materials/ publicity/DFID;**
 - ❖ **Common Questionnaire formats, manuals, workbooks and other training material/IDB_UNFPA;**
 - ❖ **CensusInfo template/ training and developmental work in collaboration with UNSD, UNICEF and DSG;**
 - ❖ **Regional Census Coordinating Committee Meetings supported by the IDB_EU.**



Section I: Social/ Gender Statistics

- **Two Regional training workshops were held, one in Suriname in Sept. 2010 and the other in Guyana Nov. 2011;**
- **Objectives: Strengthen capacity in the compilation of these statistics that include cover several Social/Gender themes;**
- **Review data gaps, metadata, Caribbean Specific Indicators for the MDGs; and devise and Action Plan for the way forward.**



Section I: Environment Statistics

- **Two regional Workshops Sept. 2010/2011 in Suriname and St Kitts and Nevis respectively.**
- **Objectives – to inform on Inter-agency collaboration in the National Statistical System;**
- **To review the core indicators and metadata and to identify best practices in filling the data gaps; how the data gaps;**
- **To continue the process of documenting the metadata;**
- **To devise Action Plan for the production of the Third Regional Environment Statistics report and national level compendia;**



Section II Economic Statistics

- **National Accounts -focus on Improvement in Basic data sources to produce the MRDS/training workshop/TA;**
- **2008 SNA Workshop in collaboration with UNSD;**
- **2008 SNA Implementation Strategy Workshop based on the Essentials of SNA in collaboration with Eurostat**
 - **Draft Implementation Strategy for 2008 SNA emanated including – NSDS, Aims and Objectives, Statistical and Admin Data Sources, focus on the SBR, Compilation Strategy and a Dissemination Strategy.**



Section II Economic Statistics

- **Trade in Services Statistics supported by the European Community- Ninth EDF:**
- **In country technical assistance provided;**
- **Training workshop – Statisticians/ Central Bank;**
- **Common Guidelines for the region;**
- **Compilation of Statistics from data submitted according to the EBOPS for 5 countries and from the BOP from the others.**
- **Data on Investment Profile.**



Section II:Economic Statistics

- **Developmental Work on Merchandise trade Statistics:**
- **Data Quality Module comprising advanced editing checks;**
- **New Eurotrace software support to treat with implementation challenges;**
- **Mirror Statistics for reconciliation of data;**
- **Data Dissemination Module- Comext**
- **Regional Training under the EU Project and also in collaboration with Eurostat;**
- **Updated online Trade information System**



Section III: ICT Statistics:

- **Defining the Scope of ICT statistics;**
- **Development of Indicator Framework-Caribbean Specific ICT Indicators (CSICT);**
- **Pilot work on measuring the Economic Contribution of ICT to GDP and to Merchandise Trade;**
- **Inventory assessment of available data, surveys, benchmark studies, data from the Census Round;**
- **Workshop to engage statisticians and ICT personnel forthcoming.**



Section III: Statistical Development

- **Caribbean Statistics Day;**
- **Organisation of Databases/Web-Based Communication Infrastructure;**
- **Common Framework for measuring Literacy – IDB- Workshop forthcoming;**
- **Production of a Common Framework for Statistics Production to facilitate harmonised statistics production and dissemination –IDB:**
 - ❖ **Legislation – Draft Model Statistics Bill;**
 - ❖ **Diagnostic Assessment /Updating the RSWP;**
 - ❖ **Data Policy- Data Warehousing, Archiving;**



Section III: Statistical Development (con't)

- **Foundation- work on updating of the Regional Statistical Work Programme /Development of a Strategic Framework for Statistics based on the NSDS at the national level:**
 - ❖ **Undertaking of a consultancy in statistical programming incorporating NSDS in-country assistance;**
 - ❖ **Developing/refining a Common Regional Statistical Work Programme;**
 - ❖ **Conduct of an assessment of DR and Haiti**



Section III Statistical Development (con't)

- **Management training for Heads of Statistical Offices;**
- **Support to convening of the SCCS as a decision-making forum;**
- **Terms of reference of the SCCS updated**
- **Support the functioning of the Advisory Group on Statistics;**
- **Activation of an online Help Desk Facility.**



Section III: Statistical Development (con't)

- **CARICOM Advisory Group on Statistics:**
 - Advancing the action plan from the High Level Advocacy Forum;
 - Regional Coordination in the Conduct of Statistical activities
 - Code of Good Practices for Statisticians in CARICOM/concordance with ECLAC;
 - Formation of Database of Experts;
 - Formation of a Professional Association;
 - Draft Statement on the 2010 HDR;
 - Representation at International meetings;



Conclusions

Major areas of Cooperation Activities:

- **CARICOM Secretariat collaborates with other agencies in efforts to improve Statistics in its member countries e.g. UNECLAC, UNSD, CARTAC OECS, ECCB;**
- **Fundamentally the approach is to:**
 - ❖ **develop a Strategic Framework for Statistics within which all the current and future initiatives can be located; and**
 - ❖ **Strengthen the Regional and National Statistical Systems to produce the data required for the integration of the region and in so doing lead to the development of the peoples of the Region**



Thank You
The END