

# SAINT LUCIA



# COUNTRY EXPERIENCE

- *Environmental, Climate Change and Disaster Information Systems*
- *SESSION 2: LEVERAGING COHERENT CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTER DATA FOR EFFECTIVE ACTION*

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# ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

- An Environmental, Climate Change and Disaster Information System is a knowledge management system which focuses on climate change, disaster information and other environmental information.
- It is a one-stop, web-based, comprehensive portal which is designed to provide such information to support the work of researchers, academics, policy planners, environmentalists, scientists, engineers, students, fisherfolk, farmers and the general public.
- Environmental matters are cross-cutting in nature and the information will span across various sectors both public and private

# INFORMATION SYSTEMS IN SAINT LUCIA

- NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SYSTEM (NEIS)
- OPEN DATA PORTAL ( AND GUIDING POLICY)
- NEMO DISASTER INFORMATION SYSTEM (DIMS)
- OTHERS (MAINLY SECTORAL WEBSITES e.g. CSO website)

# NEIS : NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

- [www.neis.govt.lc](http://www.neis.govt.lc) is the established national environmental information system created as a result of an assessment which indicated that Saint Lucia lacked the capacity to deal effectively with the compliance mechanisms of the many MEAs we have signed on to.
- To date it contains information about UNFCCC UNCBD and UNCCD. 17 public and private sector agencies have signed on to provide data to the NEIS, including the Saint Lucia National Trust. MOU with data curators up to 2030.
- Indicators are presented as a statistical value of the presence or level of the factors affecting the environment.
- Five (5) key global environmental indicators are used namely: biodiversity, food production, average global surface temperature, carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere, and human population and resource depletion .

# OPEN DATA PORTAL AND POLICY

[www.data.govt.lc](http://www.data.govt.lc) is managed by Louise Mathurin within the Department of the Public service. With the Open Data Policy approved since 2017, the portal operates on an open by default basis, wherein the work and support framework has already been published in Digests etc. so reuse of data already in the public domain. Does NOT include personal and private data or data that is a risk to national security.

Data in electronic form easy to download using technical and legal characteristics e.g. no legal license restriction. 15 Agencies are currently registered on the Open Data Portal; 39 data sets with links and data bases to CSO, Finance, Education and many others including 41 years of weather data from the Met office, 21 years of data from the Ministry of Tourism, geospatial data from the Physical Planning Unit among others.

Funded by DFID (UK) in response to a 2014 open data readiness assessment (World Bank etc.)

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# NEMO DISASTER INFORMATION SYSTEM

- This system DIMS is about 60% complete in its development. DIMS requirement report from which the DIMS Design report as produced. Uses Sahara Eden a leading open source software for disaster management with deployment in over 60 locations around the world. The development is a joint venture between EB Partners/Magazine Solutions Inc. as the lead firm in Saint Lucia and Business Technical Research Inc (partner) with a Quality Assessment Control Consultant from Data shore(Saint Lucia).
- Initial testing will be done in mid August 2022 and final development expected later this year.

# NEMO DIMS

- The information will be used by NEMO for multiple disaster planning and response to:
  - Enhance communication during and outside disaster events.
  - Identify the best persons to respond to a particular event
  - Identify capacity gaps and develop training and recruitment plans
  - Enhance the placement of resource persons within the NEMO based on qualifications and capacities.
  - Maximizing assignment, management and leveraging public/private sector partnership in a disaster context/identifying strategic areas requiring greater collaboration and partnership.
  - Understanding transportation/other support needs as well as the most suitable supplies to meet specific needs pre and post disasters.



# ENVIRONMENTAL DATA AND STATISTICS

- DEFINED (OECD): Statistics that describe the state and trends of the environment, covering the media of the natural environment (air/climate, water, land/soil), the biota within the media and human settlements.
- IMPORTANCE:
  - - to ensure compliance with international obligations under MEAs to which Saint Lucia is a party.
  - -to allow for evidence-based decision making especially policy and legislation
  - - to monitor and evaluate progress regarding climate change and disaster risk reduction.
  - - to identify threats as early as possible/streamline mitigation and adaptation measures.
  - - to plan and secure sustainable financing and funding.
  - - to support public sensitization/advocacy/awareness on environmental, climate change and disaster related matters.

# SOURCES OF ENVIRONMENTAL STATISTICS

- Statistical Surveys (population/agriculture census/sample surveys e.g. Climate Adaptation Financing Survey. Refers to any structured inquiry designed to obtain aggregated data which is either quantitative or qualitative in nature.
- Administrative Records (a collection of documents used/relied upon to select an environmental response action. They usually consist of thematic reports, correspondence, publications and online data bases from government and non-government agencies.
- Monitoring systems (multi-hazard early warning system which uses GPRS transmissions to relay alerts whenever thresholds are breached due to increased rainfall or water level rise) warning residents and essential services of an impending disaster.

# SOURCES OF ENVIRONMENTAL STATISTICS

- Remote Sensing and Thematic Mapping (satellite-based) and used by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) since 2007 to produce, health, poverty and crime maps. The Physical Planning Department uses it extensively for land cover monitoring and mapping. The thematic maps focus on a specific theme, pulling together relevant information on a subject and representing it spatially to show the relationship between these themes and their location e.g. income. Remote sensing however uses sensors on airplanes or satellites to make measurements of the earth.

# CHALLENGES IN OBTAINING STATISTICS

- Obtaining varied data on a diversity of subjects related to climate change, disasters and the environment generally, requires input from a number of experts, which are not readily available. The NEIS and the Open Data portal is still limited in scope.
- Lack of financial resources to further develop the information systems/software as well as inadequate resource personnel to man the system (upload the data/use it effectively)
- The SDG Agenda requires a lot of innovative data which the EIS is still lacking
- The available data is not always the data that is required at the time.

# THE POLICY FRAMEWORK/DECISION-MAKING

- INTERNATIONAL : UNFCCC (1993); KYOTO PROTOCOL/DOHA AMENDMENT (2003/2018); THE PARIS AGREEMENT (2016)
- REGIONAL: SAINT GEORGES DECLARATION (2040); REGIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR ACHIEVING DEVELOPMENT RESILIENT TO CLIMATE CHANGE/IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR THE CARICOM REGIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR ACHIEVING DEVELOPMENT RESILIENT TO CLIMATE CHANGE (2011-2021)
- THE ESCAZÚ AGREEMENT: (2018/2020)

# NATIONAL POLICY FRAMEWORK/DECISIONS

- NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY (2014/2004)
- NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY (2014/2005)
- SLU Climate Change Adaptation Policy (2015)
- NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTION (2020 UPDATED)
- NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN (2018-2028)

# OTHER AREAS

- 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (17n SDG goals)
- Medium Term Development Strategy (2020-2023)
- Sectoral Adaptation Strategy and Action Plans (2018-2028)
- Work of the National Climate Change Committee (overall national coordination)
- Climate Change Bill ( Climate Analytics)

# LEVERAGEING CC AND DISASTER STATISTICS

- NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLANNING PROCESS - Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (overall annual M and E of the NAP; review at end of short-term implementation activities 2021/review at end of medium term implementation activities 2024)
- NATIONAL DATA AND REPORTING FOR THE SDGs (UNEP Stats Div assistance to SLU in developing indicators). Required for the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (Voluntary National Review).
- Human Rights (Universal Periodic Review).



# WAY FORWARD

- GREATER DEVELOPMENT OF THE EXISTING INFORMATION SYSTEMS
- GREATER COLLABORATION BETWEEN PUBLIC/PRIVATE SECTOR AGENCIES IN DATA SHARING.
- CONTINUED COLLABORATION WITH ECLAC AND UNEP (SDG AND OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATOR DEVELOPMENT)
- ENHANCED USE OF DRONE AND SATELLITE TECHNOLOGY/TOOLS LIKE SEEA ( system of environmental economic accounting)
- TRAINING OF HUMAN RESOURCES IN CC, DISASTER AND ENVIRONMENTAL STATISTICS
- GREATER NETWORKING AND PARTNERSHIP WITH REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES IN DATA AND INFORMATION SHARING USING GLOBALLY RECOGNIZED TOOLS.

# THANK YOU!

- QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS!

