



Environment Statistics in Suriname

Statistical Commission side event on: **The Caribbean situation on climate change and disasters indicators**

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Short History of Environment Statistics- I

- The CARICOM Statistics Program and the UN Statistics Division executed a project during 1999-2003 (originally planned for 1999-2001): “Strengthening Capacity in the Compilation of Statistics and Indicators for Conference Follow -up in the CARICOM Region.
- At the end of the project, the activities had been fully incorporated in the work program of the CARICOM Statistics Program and therefore of CARICOM member countries.

Short History of Environment Statistics-2

- In the final stages of the aforementioned Project, the Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians (SCCS), the sub-regional equivalent of the UN Statistical Commission (UNSC) instated three CARICOM Advisory Groups: Environment Statistics, Social-Gender Statistics and on the RSWP.
- Later on these were all merged in the CARICOM Advisory Group on Statistics (AGS), as we all still know it.
- **Suriname commenced producing Environment Statistics compendia in 2000 and is producing these in all even years (Gender statistics are produced in odd years)**

I. Objectives of the Environment Statistics publication

❑ To provide data from various subject areas and sources. Also to contribute to a solid basis for decision-making, to monitor development and to promote public awareness. The languages used in the publication are Dutch and English.

❑ To comply with national, regional and international obligations / treaties. For data collection the following **guidelines** were used; The **CARICOM** Core set that consists of 12 sectors and 61 indicators, the **UNSD guidelines** (FDES 2013) that consist of 6 components and 458 environment statistics and the Sustainable Development Goals (**SDGs**) indicators that consist of 17 goals, 169 targets and circa 232 indicators.

❑ Maintain publication rhythm and awareness. The last (9th) publication was launched in December 2020 and refers to the most recent years, 2015-2019. The previous eight (8) publications were published in the years (2002, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016 and 2018).

2: Chapters/Tables/Graphs & Figures ES publication

The publication consists of thirteen (13) chapters. Each chapter starts with a brief introduction, in which environmental issues of the specific sectors are discussed. The issues in each chapter describe the pressure, the environmental impact and the response. The presentation of the environmental indicators (CARICOM, UNSD and SDGs) is indicated per sector in Tables, Graphs and in some chapters also Figures.

| Relevant Indicators of the Environment Statistics (ES) Publication (2002-2020) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Chapter | Topic | Tables | | | | | | | | | Graphs & Figures | | | | | | | | |
| | | 1 ^e | 2 ^e | 3 ^e | 4 ^e | 5 ^e | 6 ^e | 7 ^e | 8 ^e | 9 ^e | 1 ^e | 2 ^e | 3 ^e | 4 ^e | 5 ^e | 6 ^e | 7 ^e | 8 ^e | 9 ^e |
| | | 1995-2000 | 1999-2003 | 2000-2006 | 2004-2009 | 2008-2010 | 2009-2013 | 2011-2015 | 2013-2017 | 2015-2019 | 1995-2000 | 1999-2003 | 2000-2006 | 2004-2009 | 2008-2010 | 2009-2013 | 2011-2015 | 2013-2017 | 2015-2019 |
| 1 | Demographic and Socio-economic Background | 4 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 17 | 13 | 13 | 28 | . | . | 2 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 10 |
| 2 | Climate and Natural Disasters | 7 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 8 | 12 | 14 | 26 | . | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 11 |
| 3 | Tourism | 6 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 7 | 19 | . | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 4 | Transport | 3 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 10 | 11 | 19 | . | . | 1 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| 5 | Environment & Health | 9 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 8 | 11 | 7 | 8 | 21 | . | 1 | 0 | . | . | 7 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| 6 | Water | 4 | 6 | 10 | 8 | 4 | 18 | 18 | 20 | 37 | . | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 3 | 7 |
| 7 | Energy and Minerals | 8 | 6 | 10 | 14 | 19 | 20 | 26 | 27 | 41 | . | 3 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 8 | 8 | 14 | 14 |
| 8 | Forestry | 6 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 13 | 13 | 17 | 21 | . | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 13 |
| 9 | Coastal and Marine Resources | 3 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 11 | . | . | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 10 | Land Use and Agriculture | 4 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 12 | 10 | 11 | 18 | . | . | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 8 |
| 11 | Biodiversity | 5 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 26 | 33 | 29 | 35 | . | . | 0 | . | . | 2 | 3 | 6 | 13 |
| 12 | Air | 6 | 3 | . | . | . | 15 | 4 | 5 | 6 | . | . | 0 | . | . | 6 | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| 13 | Waste | . | . | . | . | . | 7 | 5 | 7 | 13 | . | . | 0 | . | . | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | Total | 65 | 65 | 67 | 75 | 72 | 172 | 167 | 177 | 295 | . | 10 | 16 | 19 | 18 | 58 | 43 | 63 | 106 |

3: Data collection Process 9th ES Pub.

| Period | January/February 2020 | March-August 2020 | 12/18/21 August 2020 |
|-----------------|--|---|---|
| Activity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sending the first data request letters to +/- 50 stakeholders. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Processing data for the Zero draft publication. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of Zero draft environmental statistics publication via working group sessions (face to face and Zoom due to Covid-19). |
| Period | 22 Aug-September 2020 | October- November 2020 | 22 December 2020 |
| Activity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send the 2nd data request letters. • Request verification of the data provided by the stakeholders. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Processing verified data • Screening text (Dutch & English). • Publication layout. • Preparation of Launch activities for environmental statistics publication | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch ninth environmental statistics publication in December 2020. |

4: Brief experience with Climate Change Statistics (Pilot Survey)- I

- Suriname's Focal Point on Environment Statistics (also a member of the UN Expert Group on Environment Statistics – EGES) encountered a zero draft set of CC statistics and indicators for the first time at 4th EGES meeting in 2017.
- After being mandated by the UN Statistical Commission in 2016 and 2018, UNSD commenced a pilot Survey on the first draft Global set in February 2020.
- Due to the length and the complexity of the first draft it took almost a week to fill out the first of many versions of the questionnaires where a lot of data gaps were found. After close collaboration with UNSD, many revisions were made after understanding some of the columns better and in August 2020 GBS completed the UNSD pilot Survey.
- In November 2020 GBS participated in the 7th EGES through MS Teams, where the revised draft set of Climate Change statistics and indicators was part of the Agenda. Suriname presented their experience with the CC questionnaire on 11 November 2020.

4: Brief experience with Climate Change Statistics (Pilot Survey)-2

- Of the 124 applicable indicators (10, snow etc., of the 134 are not applicable) there was no data available for 51 of the CC indicators/statistics at the NSO (thus circa 41% data gaps).
- Suriname did 2 GHG-Inventories (Suriname National Communication to UNFCCC in 2003 and 2008). The latest data available is for 2008 from the second UNFCCC and Suriname is now in the stage of preparing for the third GHG-Inventory using the IPCC guidelines.
- In 2020 some data from the draft Environment Statistics publication was provided to three consultants working on the third National Communication to the UNFCCC for Suriname.

5.Environment Statistics Challenges for Suriname

- ❑ **One of the biggest challenges in 2020 and also in 2021 is COVID-19.**
- ❑ No data is available for some SDGs, CARICOM Core set indicators and FDES 2013 indicators . A special survey is needed. Lack of financial and human resources often make it difficult to conduct “special surveys”. The data from Surveys such as MICS (2018), Census (2012), HBS (2013/2014) is only available at certain intervals. MICS and HBS approximately every 4/7 years and Census every 10 years.
- ❑ Training with regard to metadata and data collection for the SDGs is necessary for various stakeholders, such as the government, the private sector, NGOs, and even the NSO (ABS/GBS)
- ❑ **In order to obtain data, the stakeholders must be constantly called or e-mailed to send the requested data. Constantly calling, emailing and often making a personal visit is time-consuming (and impossible during COVID-19)**
- ❑ Sometimes the requested data is not provided in the format that ABS requires. So we get “raw data” and have to adjust the tables.
- ❑ There is often a lack of metadata for the requested data.
- ❑ Due to data, gaps, often international Questionnaires cannot be completed fully.

6. Advantages and Opportunities in Suriname-I

- ❑ There is good cooperation between GBS and the UN organizations (UNDP / UNICEF / UNFPA). The UNDP and previously CIS have made it possible for ABS to hold environmental statistics workshops. The last two (2) MS publication launches also took place thanks to funding from the UNDP.
- ❑ GBS receives a lot of support from international and regional organizations such as UNSD and CARICOM through workshops. Participation in the UNSD-led “Expert Group Meeting on Environment Statistics”. In 2020, GBS also contributed to the draft Climate Change Stats Questionnaire from UNSD.
- ❑ SMIN (Suriname Environmental Information Network) is officially part of the framework Law on the Environment in Suriname and since last year besides an Environment Authority there is a Ministry for Spatial Planning and the Environment.
- ❑ There is a good cooperation between the GBS and the various ministries/institutes. It is expected that the collaboration between the stakeholders will be further strengthened with the consultations for the GHG inventory (the third national Communication to the UNFCCC for Suriname)

6. Advantages and Opportunities in Suriname-2

- ❑ The MICS 6 (2018) is an important data source for the SDGs.
- ❑ The previous 3 ES publications (2014, 2016 and 2018) are already available on the GBS website. The 2020 publication will be online soon.
- https://www.statistics-suriname.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/revised-FINAL_Milieupub_6dec2018-tvs-Suriprint.pdf

7. Way forward for Suriname

- Try to collect more data on CC for the 10th Environment Statistics publication, planned for 2022 and also for Suriname's 3rd National Communication to UNFCCC.
- Collaborate more with the national policy focal points. For example the climate change focal point to promote linking climate change monitoring, statistics and policy.
- Publish a Climate Change Statistics Report for Suriname.
- Keep putting good respondents in the limelight on Statistics Day!

Thank You
Muchas Gracias
Merci Beaucoup



9^e Milieu Statistieken Publicatie
9th Environment Statistics Publication
2015 - 2019



Complimentary Copy