

Strengthening Environment statistics for Monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals

Environment Statistics – Mauritius

Statistics Mauritius

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Environment Statistics - Evolution in Mauritius



- ✓ Mauritius - small island, limited in resources and vulnerable
- ✓ Has to pursue a sustainable development strategy in its economic and social development plans despite inherent vulnerabilities
- ✓ 1989 – Ministry created to look into Environmental issues and policies. Its mission is to
 - Protect and manage the environmental assets of Mauritius
 - Coordinate Sustainable Development through a participatory process including compliance with international environmental conventions and protocols;
 - Implement Government policies and enforce legal provisions to enhance Sustainable Development and the protection of the environment of Mauritius;
 - Foster environment stewardship.
- ✓ 1994 – Statistics Mauritius starts developing Environment Statistics

Environment Statistics - Evolution in Mauritius



- ✓ 1999 – Following increasing demand for statistics on environment, a Statistical Unit created at the Ministry of Environment at the request of the ministry
 - Unit is staffed with officers from Stats Mauritius
 - Mandate: cater for the statistical needs of the Ministry and other users

- ✓ 2002 – First dedicated publication on Environment Statistics

- ✓ 2011 - Economic Accounts published
 - Water,
 - Energy use and Atmospheric emissions, and
 - Material flow

Environment Statistics - Evolution in Mauritius



- ✓ Economic and Social Indicators on Environment Statistics
 - Publication designed to rapidly disseminate the main statistical data pending the publication of more detailed information

- ✓ Digest on Environment Statistics
 - Annual publication meant to bring together in a single volume all data pertaining to environment statistics.

- ✓ MDG indicators on environment regularly published

- ✓ All publications available on the website of Stats Mauritius (<http://statsmauritius.govmu.org>)

- ✓ Link available on the Ministry's website

Institutional Set-up

- ✓ The Statistics Unit and other Ministries/Departments involved in the production of Environment Statistics
(E.g. Forestry services, Water Resources Unit, Meteorological Services, Waste Water Management Authority)
- ✓ Being located at the Ministry is an advantage
- ✓ The Unit participates in meetings of the Ministry, thus is aware of the needs of the ministry and other stakeholders
- ✓ It is involved in most of the environment projects, e.g.
 - National Communications on climate change and national inventory report on GHGs
 - Global Fuel Efficiency Initiative
 - Carbon Calculator 2050
 - Environment Information System – List of indicators to be available on-line and targeted to public at large (still at pilot stage)
- ✓ Coordination is facilitated by the ministry, but is project-oriented

FDES 1984

- ✓ FDES 1984 – framework used by Stats Mauritius until 2013
 - Flora
 - Fauna
 - Atmosphere
 - Land
 - Water
 - Human settlements
- ✓ FDES 2013 – framework will be used as from 2014. An attempt has been made to convert the 2013 Digest of Environmental Statistics to FDES 2014.

FDES 2013



- ✓ A catalyst to further develop environment statistics
- ✓ Better statistics
 - Help to better address environmental policy concerns and priorities of the country
 - Help to improve monitoring and measurement of the environmental dimension of sustainable development and the post-2015 development agenda.
 - Out of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, 7 are directly environmentally-related: Goal 6 (water and sanitation), Goal 7 (energy), Goal 11 (human settlements), Goal 12 (sustainable consumption and production), Goal 13 (climate change), Goal 14 (marine resources), and Goal 15 (terrestrial ecosystems, forests, desertification, land degradation and biodiversity) and some other Goals have environmental aspects. The FDES 2013 assists in the organization, compilation and dissemination of the environment statistics needed to monitor the environmentally-related Goals and respective Targets.
- ✓ FDES 1984 v/s FDES 2013
 - Some 160 statistics already available at Stats Mauritius

FDES 2013



Table 4.2 The Basic Set of Environment Statistics

Component 1: Environmental conditions and quality

Sub-component 1.1: Physical Conditions	Topic Statistics and Related Information (Bold Text – Core Set/Tier 1; Regular Text – Tier 2; Italicized Text – Tier 3)	Potential, Aggregations and scales	Published
Topic 1.1.1:			
Atmosphere, Climate and weather	a. Temperature	National Sub-national	
	1. Monthly averages		y
	2. Minimum Monthly averages		y
	3. Maximum Monthly averages		y
	b. Precipitation		
	1. Annual averages		y
	2. Long-term annual averages		y
	3. Minimum Monthly value		y
	4. Maximum Monthly value		y
	c. Relative humidity		
	1. Minimum Monthly value		y
	2. Maximum Monthly value		y
Topic 1.1.2:			
Hydrographic characteristics	e. Seas	National, within coastal waters or EEZ	
	1. Coastal waters Area		n
	2. Territorial sea Area		n
	3. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)		
	(2.3.1.d) Area		y
	4. Sea level Depth		n
	5. Location		n
	6. Area of sea ice Area		n

FDES 2013

Components of FDES 2013	Number of Environmental Statistics_ FDES 2013	Number of Environmental Statistics already published ¹	Remarks
1. Environment Conditions and Quality	182	53	
2. Environmental Resources and Their Use	124	48	Out of 124, 25 are not applicable, namely mineral and non mineral resources
3. Residuals	57	20	
4. Extreme Events and Disasters	33	0	
5. Human Settlements and Environmental Health	49	21	
6. Environment Protection, Management and Engagement	47	23	CMPHS results icw Environment Module.(19),others (4)
Total	492	165	

¹ The 165 environment statistics are published under Fauna, Flora, Atmosphere, Water, Land, Human Settlements and Statistics on Environment and are collected through censuses and surveys.

FDES 2013



Stakeholders involved	Status		
	Total	Statistics Published	Statistics to develop
Mauritius Meteorological Services	20	8	12
Foresrty Services	38	20	18
Water Resources Unit	47	12	35
Albion Fishery Research Centre	39	20	19
Central Water Authority	32	23	9
Ministry Of Environment or Finance	79	12	67
Agricultural Research Extension Unit	36	15	21
Ministry of Housing	2	0	2
Nationl Parks and Conservation Service	15	1	14
Waste Water Management Authority	11	3	8
Ministry of Local Government	19	3	16
Nationl Transport Authority	4	1	3
Ministry of Health	25	12	13
Disaster Risk Reduction Management Centre	58	0	58
Statistics Mauritius	38	35	3
UNKNOWN	29	0	29
Total	492	165	327

Challenges

- ✓ Inadequate coordination and dialogue given the multi-disciplinary and cross-cutting nature of environment statistics involving numerous stakeholders
- ✓ Collection of data not a priority in many of these institutions
- ✓ No legal obligation of these institutions to provide data required
- ✓ Lack of capacity

Recent activities



- ✓ Hosted the UNSD and COMESA Workshop on the Implementation of the FDES 2013 for the COMESA member states (26-29 Jan 2015)
- ✓ Workshop focused on, inter alia,: presentations on FDES 2013 components, sub-components and Basic/Core Sets of Environment Statistics; application of the Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool (ESSAT); GIS and remote sensing; and the draft Methodological Manual on the Basic Set of Environment Statistics
- ✓ Workshop brought together several national level line ministries which will aid future inter-institutional collaboration as well as participants from other countries which will contribute to improved regional networking
- ✓ Workshop provided more clarity and guidance on the FDES

Future Plan



- ✓ Develop a road map for the implementation of FDES 2013, including development of SDG environment related indicators for the UN post-2015 agenda
- ✓ Strengthen institutional collaboration
- ✓ Build capacity of Stats Mauritius and other data producers
- ✓ Update existing Environment Economic Accounts and extend to other areas
- ✓ Develop Ecosystem Accounting
- ✓ Develop a centralized Environment Information System to facilitate dissemination.

Conclusion

- ✓ Environment statistics – vital for formulating evidence-based policy decisions and evaluating the impact of these decisions.
- ✓ Alignment of Environment Statistics with FDES 2013 ensures that statistics will be comprehensive, relevant and reliable.
- ✓ FDES – a useful tool in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals and the post 2015 development agenda.

Thank You