The New Normal for Central Statistical Offices (CSOs)

Emerging data sources and new data demands for policy making and relevance of official statistics.
Presentation Outline

- Background
- St. Lucia’s Present-day Realities (New Data Demands)
- Developments re Emerging Data Sources
- Future Outlook
Background

- The Millennium Development Goal - The eight (8) Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).
- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - The new Agenda calls on countries to begin efforts to achieve seventeen (17) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) over a 15-year period.
  - 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are supported by 169 targets and 232 indicators.
- The UN Data Revolution - From the beginning, the SDGs have been closely tied to the UN data revolution.
St. Lucia’s Present-day Realities vis-à-vis 2020 Census Preparations

- New Data Demands and the SDGs:
  - Crime Statistics - Crime Victimization Survey
  - STEP Survey
  - Disability Statistics/Information - Disability Assessment Project
  - Children, Women and Men - Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey (MICS 6)
  - Labour Needs Assessment (Postponed) - 5 Years
  - Unpaid Care Work Survey (Postponed)
  - World Bank Well-being Survey (Postponed)
  - Enterprise/Establishment (Economic) Census (Postponed)
Developments re Emerging Data Sources - Administrative Data

- Ongoing Strengthening of the Existing Statistics Act - The Statistics Act gives the CSO the authority to execute its mandate.

- Strengthening Institutional Relationships.
  - Memorandum of Understanding with Key Data Producers:
    - **Inland Revenue Department** - For the purposes of National Accounting (GDP Compilation) and maintenance of our Statistical Register.
    - **Customs & Excise Department** - For purposes of compiling the Balance of Payments and Merchandise Trade Statistics related to the Import, Export, Re-Imports and Re-Export of Goods.
Developments re Emerging Data Sources (Cont’d) - Administrative Data

- Strengthening Institutional Relationship (Cont’d).

- Memorandum of Understanding with Key Data Producers:
  - **Registry of Civil Status** - To have access to data related to Registered Births, Deaths and Marriages for the purpose of compiling Population and other Vital/Demographic Statistics.
  - **Registry of High Courts** - To have access to data related to Registered Divorces for the purpose of compiling Population and other Vital/Demographic Statistics.
  - **National Insurance Corporation** - For the purposes of National Accounting (GDP Production) and maintenance of a Statistical Business Register.
Developments re Emerging Data Sources (Cont’d) - Administrative Data

- Ongoing efforts to access additional critical administrative data (sources).
  - CariSECURE Project, ‘Strengthening Evidence Based Decision Making for Citizen Security in the Caribbean’
    - Police Records Management Information System (PRMIS). An automated Crime Information Management System (CIMS) - an automated system that captures and allows sharing of real-time standardized, disaggregated data.
  - Massy Supermarket Loyalty Points Information System (Database)
    - National Accounts - An independent estimate of Final Household Consumption Expenditure.
    - National Accounts - Support the regular compilation of Supply and Use Tables (SUT).
Developments re Emerging Data Sources (Cont’d) - Geospatial

- Tablets and Smart Phones
  - We are now using a mobile application to collect GPS coordinates for every building on the island
- LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging)
- Unmanned Vehicles (Drones)
- Image Sensors and Satellite imagery
- The Internet of things (computing devices embedded in everyday objects, enabling them to send and receive data)
New Data Demands - Geospatial

- Policy makers are now demanding smart data to assist in analysis, visualization, management, etc.
- Geospatial data (which is evidence based) to provide accurate, timely and user-friendly information on desired locations.
- Geospatial data to identify:
  - Location of vulnerable populations during a disaster.
  - Most efficient route for fire fighters during an emergency and diversion of traffic during mass crowd events.
Future Outlook

**EXPECTEDLY**, there will be a continued increase in the quantities and categories of data and information demanded and available for informing policies and decision-making.
THANK YOU!