

GUYANA BUREAU OF STATISTICS
COORDINATION OF THE
NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

BARBADOS: November¹ 2019

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- National Statistical System(NSS)
- Objectives of the National Statistical System
- Coordination of the National Statistical System
 - Guyana Bureau of Statistics (BOS)

NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM (NSS)

- ▶ National Statistical Systems brings together all statistical organizations and units within a country that jointly collect, process and disseminate data and statistics on behalf of the national government. This includes Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs).
- ▶ The Guyana National Statistical System is a decentralized system where several institutions are involved in the production and dissemination of official statistics.

OBJECTIVES OF THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

National Statistical System functions to achieve the following objectives:

- ▶ **To build a coordinated, sustainable capacity for the production and use of harmonized, quality statistical data in the country.**
- ▶ To make data accessible and available to all simultaneously and without prejudice.
- ▶ To protect the confidentiality of the data provided by data suppliers in response to statistical inquiries.

OBJECTIVES OF THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM (2/2)

- ▶ To reduce duplication of efforts, minimize respondent burden, share best practices and international standards and to achieve the most efficient allocation of financial and human resources.
- ▶ To promote the use of statistics at all levels for evidence-based policy design, monitoring and evaluation in planning and decision-making processes, and as information on society for general public as essential for a democracy.

COORDINATION OF THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

BY THE BUREAU OF STATISTICS

The functions of the BOS which since 1965 has become systemized, are set out in Section 3 (1) of Amendments to the Statistics Act, Chapter 19:09 of 1991.

Reference is made to the CARICOM Statistical System Assessment (2018) of which Guyana participated. The findings revealed:

- ▶ **The coordination of the NSS is considered the key responsibility of the BOS.**

COORDINATION OF NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

BY THE BUREAU OF STATISTICS (2/6)

- ▶ The BOS represents the core or the heart of the NSS.
- ▶ The BOS is however, the main producer of official statistics. The BOS produces and disseminates statistics from a range of disciplines and has the statistical infrastructure in place.

COORDINATION OF NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM BY THE BUREAU OF STATISTICS (3/6)

- ▶ The BOS does not have established within the organization structure a department/division with responsibility for coordinating the NSS.
- ▶ The Statistics Act does not contain clear guidance on how coordination ought to proceed and what specific scheme of social and economic statistics needs to be coordinated.

COORDINATION OF NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

BY THE BUREAU OF STATISTICS (4/6)

- ▶ Currently there are no documentations or guidelines with respect to the methodology for the guidance of the other producers of statistics or data users within the NSS.
- ▶ The coordinating activities varied in scope, and when applied are limited or ad hoc in nature. There is little or no documentation to monitor progress over time.
- ▶ The BOS because of its limited financial and human resources, mainly concentrate on statistical production activities.

COORDINATION OF NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

BY THE BUREAU OF STATISTICS (5/6)

In the absence of a structured NSS, the BOS continues to provide support to the other statistical reporting agencies.

- ▶ Survey support are provided, which includes survey design, data collection and analysis.
- ▶ The BOS has initiated different activities resulting in coordination within the NSS, for example the annual observance of Caribbean Statistics Day.
- ▶ The BOS has MOUs and other informal agreements with MDAs

COORDINATION OF NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

BY THE BUREAU OF STATISTICS (6/6)

- ▶ The BOS has representation on Inter-Agencies Committees.
- ▶ Consultations, workshops and meetings were organized with the purpose of coordinating the NSS for the activities namely:
 - Self-Assessment Tool for Assessing Statistical Capacity (TASC).
 - Implementation of an In-Depth Assessment of the BOS and the NSS.
 - Draft National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS).

THE WAY FORWARD

Guyana Bureau of Statistics is currently the beneficiary of support funding under the IDB Project entitled: “Enhancing Statistical Capacities of Guyana”.

- ▶ The project is currently supporting the first National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS).
- ▶ A coordinating framework proposal is being developed under the NSDS.
- ▶ An Amendment to the Statistics Act to clearly define the coordination functions of the BOS is necessary.

THE WAY FORWARD (2/2)

- ▶ Timely implementation of the recommendations of the NSDS final report is crucial.
- ▶ As leader of the NSS, the BOS will look to promote the utilization of the latest technology including Geographic Information System (GIS) and Drone.
- ▶ The BOS acknowledges that coordination of the NSS is particularly important in the present data environment where there is an urgent demand for harmonized statistics and comparable statistical indicators for monitoring progress in achieving global goals and targets.

THANK YOU