



SURINAME



General Bureau of Statistics Suriname

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Monitoring the quality of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics at the regional level

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Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

Kapok Hotel



Overview of the presentation:

- Country summary
- Current developments (collaboration with Civil Registry Office and data collection of Vital Statistics)
- Bottlenecks / Challenges
- Lessons learned
- The way forward

Country summary

- Republic of Suriname (Independence Day is on the 25th of November)
- Land area: 163,820 km²
- Districts: 10
- Population: **541,638** (Census 2012)/**558,773** (mid year estimate 2014)
- Official language: Dutch
- Total births 2013: 10,012
- Total deaths 2013: 3,557
- Total marriages 2013: 2,190
- Total divorces 2013: 602



Current developments:

- The General Bureau of Statistics (GBS) resides under the Ministry of Home Affairs. As does the Civil Registry Office (CRO).
- The CRO produces data on vital statistics (births, deaths, marriages and divorces and also migration data), on annual basis, in the form of their publication “Demographic Statistics”.
- The GBS uses data from the CRO for calculation of demographic indicators. Every two years the section of Population Statistics produces a publication “Demographic Data”. The last publication was launched in September 2015 and covers the years 2009-2014.



Current development - continued

The GBS also uses mortality data, for calculation of mortality rates/ indicators, from the Bureau of Public Health, which is a department of the Ministry of Health. This data includes the “causes of death”, maternal mortality data, infant mortality data etc.

The GBS collects birth data(live births-by weight and still births)from the 5 major hospitals.

Bottlenecks / Challenges

- Lack of availability of data.

Civil Registry Office: We are at this moment still waiting for data over 2014.

Bureau of Public Health: The last data we received from the Bureau of Public Health is from 2011.

- Quality of the data (possible errors)

The Hospitals: For the birth weight and number of births we use a standard table. In 2014 we discovered an error in the data we received from 1 hospital. We had to go to the hospital to manually register the data.

- Lack of Skilled personnel (human resources)

More skilled personnel needed to collect quality data and perform analysis of the data.

- More specific training needed



Lessons learned

- Strengthen the “relationship” between the GBS and other data producers/data sources
- Always perform consistency checks of the data
- Stay up to date with the methodology of demographic statistics and relevant indicators



Way forward

- This workshop is a great opportunity to learn from colleagues from the region, to network amongst each other and to share relevant experiences. As a “young’ head of Population Statistics the first way forward is more training on relevant topics
- Creating a more stable relationship with relevant data sources
- Since the CRO and the GBS both reside under one ministry, focus on strengthening the collaboration between the two departments, in order to produce timely and quality demographic data



Thank you