

Institutional aspects of environment statistics in Mauritius

(Saheda Sham-Jacmohun, Central Statistics Office)



Country profile

- Population(2006): 1,252,698
- Per capita GDP at market prices: US \$ 5,300
- Sectoral contribution to GDP
 - Agriculture: 5.6%
 - Manufacturing:20.0%
 - Construction: 5.6%
 - Wholesale and retail trade: 12.2%
 - Hotels and restaurants: 8.5%
 - Transport and communication: 12.3%
 - Financial intermediation and business services: 10.3%
- Tourist arrivals: 788,300

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Historical background

- In order to meet the data needs of planners, policy makers in environmental and related socio-economic field, the CSO, in 1994, started work on the development of environmental statistics.
- In June 1999, a Statistic unit was subsequently created at the Department of Environment and National Development Unit.

Activities

- Undertake a thorough inventory of all existing information relevant to the environment, including actual and potential suppliers of data.
- Prepare a database on environmental statistics.
- Compute annual inventory of greenhouse gas emissions.
- Construct indicators to monitor trends and impact of measures.
- Conduct ad hoc environmental surveys.
- Disseminate data on the status of environment
- Participate in various projects – AEIN, SoE, EIS, NODC

Sources of data

Official requests from:

- Ministry of Agro Industry and Fisheries
- Ministry of Public Utilities
- Ministry of industry, Small and Medium enterprises, Commerce and Co-operative
- Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment
- Ministry of Health and Quality of Life
- Ministry of Local Government
- Ministry of Environment and National development Unit
- Central Water Authority
- Central Electricity Board
- Meteorological Services
- National Transport authority

Initial set-up and constraints

- On site meeting
- Official requests
- Follow up
- Data gap because of administrative procedures

Data processing and analysis

- Excel software for data capture
- Statistical analysis: SPSS software mainly
- Greenhouse gases are computed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Revised 1996 (Updated) Software for National Greenhouse gas (GHG) Inventories

Scope and Coverage

- **Flora:** mainly forestry statistics
- **Fauna:** Mainly Fisheries statistics
- **Atmosphere:** Climate, GHG emissions, air quality
- **Land:** Land use, agriculture, solid wastes
- **Water:** abstraction, use
- **Human settlements:** Energy, transport, infrastructure, socio-economic

Topic and data items

- Flora: Forest area, local production, land protected areas, forest plantations
- Fauna: Livestock, fish catch, consumption of fish, fishable areas, marine protected areas
- Atmosphere: Temperature, humidity, ambient air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, ozone-depleting substances, respiratory diseases
- Water: Fresh water resources, water abstraction, precipitation, water consumption, water quality of rivers and coastal areas, sea surface temperature
- Land: Land use, forest area, built-up areas, agricultural land areas, road network, waste landfill
- Human settlements: Population growth, population density, primary energy requirement, energy consumption, health and welfare conditions, building permits, employment by industrial group

Outputs

- Publications: Economic and Social Indicator on Environment Statistics
- Digest of Environment Statistics
- Other Ad-hoc publications

Guidelines followed

- A framework for the Development of Environment Statistics, Statistical Papers, series M, No. 78
- Concepts and Methods of Environment Statistics: Statistics of the Natural Environment, Studies and Methods, Series F, No. 57
- Concepts and Methods of environment Statistics: Human Settlements Statistics, Studies and Methods, Series F, No. 51

That's All

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