### **Session 1.2: Basic Set of Environment Statistics**



Regional Workshop on Environment Statistics and Climate Change Statistics for the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Region

St. George's, Grenada, 4-8 November 2019





#### **Basic Set of Environment Statistics**

28 August 2018

#### **Component 1: Environmental Conditions and Quality**

Solar radiation

1. Average daily vo

2. Average monthly

| 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) |  | Category of<br>Measurement | Potential Aggregations and Scales        | Methodological<br>Guidance                               |  |  |  |
| Topic 1.1.1:<br>Atmosphere,<br>climate and | a.  | Temperature 1. Monthly average 2. Minimum monthly average                    | Degrees<br>Degrees         | National     Sub-national                | World     Meteorological     Organization (WMO)          |  |  |  |
| weather                                    | b.  | 3. Maximum monthly average Precipitation (also in 2.6.1.a) 1. Annual average | Degrees<br>Height          |  | Intergovernmental     Panel on Climate     Change (IPCC) |  |  |  |
|  | 2. Long-term annual average 3. Monthly average 4. Minimum monthly value 5. Maximum monthly value                    |  | Height<br>Height           |  | National Oceanic<br>and Atmospheric<br>Administration    |  |  |  |
|  |   |  | Height<br>Height           |  | (NOAA)/National<br>Aeronautics and Space                 |  |  |  |
|  | c.  | Relative humidity 1. Minimum monthly value 2. Maximum monthly value          | Number<br>Number           |  | Administration<br>(NASA)                                 |  |  |  |
|  | d.  | Pressure 1. Minimum monthly value  | Pressure unit              | National     Sub-national     By station |  |  |  |  |
|  | e.  | Wind speed  1. Minimum month  BSES is avai                                   | lable in al                | II UN official languages:                |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2. Maximum monti https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/fdes/basicset.cs  |  |                            |  |  |  |  |  |

- All statistical tables from chapter 3 included, on 44 pages document
- From Basic set to core set in chapter 4

## Why do we need a Basic Set of Environment Statistics?

- Tier 3

  Tier 1

  Core Set of Environment Statistics
- The Basic Set was developed in response to:
  - country demand;
  - relevance of the statistics to environmental policies/issues;
  - corresponding FDES topics.
- The statistics contained in the Set are useful for:
  - generating national sets or databases of environment statistics.
  - reporting on environment (MEAs) or sustainable development (SDGs).
  - calculating environmental indicators.
  - generating environmental-economic accounts.



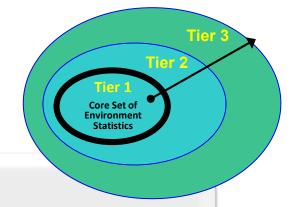
### Process

United Nations Statistics Division (1988). Concepts and Methods of Environment Statistics: Human Settlements Statistics—A Technical Report, available from http://unstats.un.org/unsd /publication/SeriesF/SeriesF\_51e.pdf
United Nations Statistics Division (1991). Concepts and Methods of Environment Statistics: Statistics of the Natural Environment—A Technical Report, available from http://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/SeriesF/SeriesF\_57E.pdf

- The development of the Basic Set of Environment
   Statistics began in 2010 with a review of the UNSD List
   of Environmental Indicators, adopted by the United
   Nations Statistical Commission in 1995, and the lists of
   environment statistics contained in the two technical
   reports which accompanied the 1984 FDES.
- The process also involved assessing international data collection efforts, including major global or regional indicator initiatives. The selection of statistics also took into account the relevant data needed to respond to global environmental conventions and MEAs.

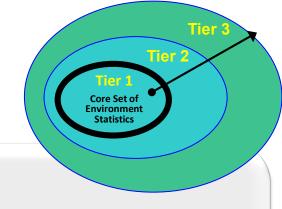


### Process of developing the Basic Set



- The process included a review of 2,575 environmental indicators and statistics.
- Indicators and statistics were reviewed from 37 sources and 65 lists/sets from international, regional and inter-governmental institutions, global environmental conventions, academia and NGOs.
- These indicators and statistics were then organized around preliminary themes and subthemes. By indicating global, regional and thematic priorities, this approach helped to determine the FDES component structure. It also provided the opportunity to identify those closely related fields that, due to their importance, should be included in the scope of the FDES.
- The contents of the Basic Set were then tested, on a pilot basis, in 25 countries from all regions of the world at various stages of developing their national environment statistics.
  - The pilot test in each country consisted primarily of assessing the relevance and availability of the statistics. The countries were also asked to indicate the priority of each statistic for national policymaking.
    - The results of this pilot test have helped to prioritize and determine the appropriate set of statistics to be included in the Core Set (Tier 1), Tier 2 and Tier 3.

## The Basic Set of Environment Statistics

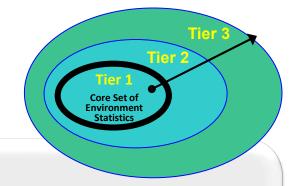


#### The Basic Set of Environment Statistics is:

- a <u>comprehensive</u>, but not exhaustive, set of statistics designed to support countries developing environment statistics programmes according to their national priorities for statistical development.
- <u>flexible</u> enough to be adapted to individual countries' environmental concerns, priorities and resources.
- The **Basic Set** thus features a progression of three tiers, based on the level of relevance, availability and methodological development of the statistics, where <u>Tier 1 corresponds to the Core Set of Environment Statistics.</u> As national priorities require and data availability and resources permit, the scope may be widened gradually to include the statistics in Tiers 2 and 3.



## The Basic Set and its three tiers of statistics



The three tiers of statistics are defined as follows:

- <u>Tier 1</u>, corresponding to the Core Set of Environment Statistics, includes 100 statistics which are of high priority and relevance to most countries and have a <u>sound methodological foundation</u>. It is recommended that countries consider producing them in the **short-term**.
- <u>Tier 2</u> includes 200 environment statistics which are of priority and relevance to most countries but require greater investment of time, resources or methodological development. It is recommended that countries consider producing them in the **medium-term**.
- <u>Tier 3</u> includes <u>158</u> environment statistics which are either of <u>lower priority or</u> require significant methodological development. It is recommended that countries consider producing them in the <u>long-term</u>.



#### Do you remember what the components are?

Component 1: Environmental Conditions and Quality

Component 2: Environmental Resources and their Use

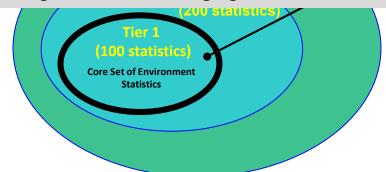
Component 3: Residuals

Component 4: Extreme Events and Disasters

Component 5: Human Settlements and Environmental Health

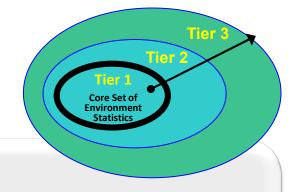
Component 6: Environmental Protection, Management and Engagement

Core Set or Tier 1 = 100 statistics Basic Set = 458 statistics



| Number of Statistics | Component 1 | Component 2 | Component 3 | Component 4 | Component 5 | Component 6 | Total |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------|
| Tier 1               | 32          | 30          | 19          | 4           | 12          | 3           | 100   |
| Tier 2               | 58          | 51          | 34          | 11          | 22          | 24          | 200   |
| Tier 3               | 51          | 43          | 5           | 16          | 20          | 23          | 158   |
| Total                | 141         | 124         | 58          | 31          | 54          | 50          | 458   |

#### From Basic Set to Core set

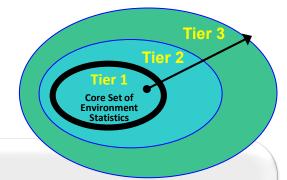


The main selection criteria for the Core Set of Environment Statistics (Tier 1) were relevance, measurability and methodological soundness, described further as follows:

- i. **Relevance**: Core statistics should meet the needs of the broad variety of users and be responsive to changes in the environment and related human activities;
- ii. Measurability: Core statistics should have sufficient supporting data and metadata readily available, be of accepted quality and be updated regularly, or it should be possible to compile them in the near term;
- iii. **Methodological soundness**: Core statistics should adhere to professional and scientific methods, as well as to internationally agreed concepts and definitions to the extent possible.



#### The Core Set of Environmental of Statistics



- The Core Set represents a broad consensus of opinion on the pertinence and feasibility of these statistics.
- well suited to provide guidance in determining priorities for countries at early stages of developing environment statistics
- can also help to identify data gaps in established national environment statistics programmes and systems
- It incorporates the most pertinent statistics needed to report on global environmental conventions and MEAs



Temperature, precipitation, watersheds

Coastal waters, coastlines, coastal areas

- Soil types, erosion, desertification
- Ecosystems and their extent, flora and fauna
- Protected areas, forest area, land cover types extent
- Air quality, freshwater quality, marine water quality

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| Number of<br>Statistics | Component 1 | Component 2 | Component 3 | Component 4 | Component 5 | Component 6 | Total |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------|
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# The Basic Set is presented in the FDES structure, supplemented with additional guidance

| Sub-componer  |  | I   |  |   |  |  |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|--|
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| Topic 4.1.1: Occurrence of natural extreme events and disasters         |  | Occurrence of natural extreme events and disasters  1. Type of natural extreme event and disaster (geophysical, meteorological, hydrological, climatological, biological)  2. Location  3. Magnitude (where applicable)  4. Date of occurrence  5. Duration | Location Intensity Date Time period                                  | By event     National     Sub-national                  | Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters     Emergency Events     Database (CRED EMDAT)     UN Economic     Commission for Latin     America and the     Caribbean     (UNECLAC)     Handbook for     Estimating the Socioeconomic and     Environmental Effects     of Disasters     The United Nations     Office for Disaster |  |
| Topic 4.1.2:<br>Impact of<br>natural<br>extreme events<br>and disasters | a. People affected by natural extreme events and disasters  1. Number of people killed 2. Number of people injured 3. Number of people homeless 4. Number of people affected b. Economic losses due to natural extreme events and disasters (e.g., damage to buildings, transportation networks, loss of revenue for | Number Number Number Number Currency  | By event     By ISIC economic activity     National     Sub-national |   |  |  |
|   | c.   | businesses, utility disruption)  Physical losses/damages due to natural extreme events and disasters (e.g., area and amount of crops, livestock, aquaculture, biomass)  | Area,<br>Description,<br>Number                                      | By direct and indirect damage                           | Risk Reduction<br>(UNISDR)   |  |
|   | d.   | Effects of natural extreme events and disasters on integrity of ecosystems  1. Area affected by natural disasters  2. Loss of vegetation cover  3. Area of watershed affected  4. Other   | Area<br>Area<br>Area<br>Description                                  | By event     By ecosystem     National     Sub-national |  |  |
|   | e.   | External assistance received  | Currency   | By event     National                                   |  |  |

The complete Basic Set can be found at: <a href="https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/fdes/basicset.cshtml">https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/fdes/basicset.cshtml</a>



### Thank you for your attention!

For more information please contact the Environment Statistics Section at the UN Statistics Division: E-mail: envstats@un.org

website: <a href="https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/">https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/</a>



