



Status and Needs of Environment **Statistics for Sustainable** **Development in the CARICOM** **Region**

**Workshop on Environment Statistics and Climate Change
Statistics for the CARICOM Region
St. Georges, Grenada
4-8 November 2019**



Overview of Presentation

- Background
- Development of the CARICOM Programme
- Current Status of Regional Environment
- Statistics
- Challenges/Needs
- Areas for Development



BACKGROUND- UNSD/CARICOM PROJECT

- The compilation of social/gender and environmental statistics and indicators was initiated with the commencement of a collaborative project between the UNSD and the CARICOM Secretariat in 1999-2004 entitled:

“Strengthening Capacity in the compilation of statistics and indicators for conference follow-up in the CARICOM region”.

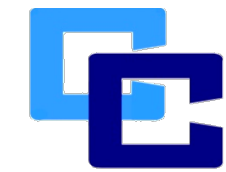
- This project was executed with the participation of the CARICOM Member States.

Key Results from the UNSD/CARICOM project included:

- Needs assessment conducted in countries in 1999
- Commencement workshop in 2000 in Belize where staff in Member States were trained in the compilation of Environment Statistics;
- A report was produced and disseminated “*The CARICOM Environment in Figures, 2002*” focusing on areas such as coastal zones, tourism, natural disasters, air and climate, and biodiversity;
- Production of Environment Compendia by some countries
- A first Advisory Group on Statistics (AGS) was established to sustain the compilation of statistics in this area post the project.

DEVELOPMENT OF CARICOM PROGRAMME

- The Environment Statistics component of the CARICOM programme on Social/Gender and Environment statistics was launched at the fourth Advisory Group Meeting held in Belize in June 2004;
- The preliminary lists of indicators were re-drafted and internally reviewed by the Sustainable Development Programme of the CARICOM Secretariat;
- Establish routines for the compilation of these statistics and for the production of the reports were also established;



CARICOM

THEMATIC AREAS

- Environment Statistics and Indicators are classified under the following themes:
 - Population and Households
 - Tourism
 - Environmental Health
 - Natural Disasters
 - Energy and Minerals
 - Land Use and Agriculture
 - Coastal and Marine Resources
 - Biodiversity
 - Forest
 - Air
 - Waste - UNSD
 - Water - UNSD

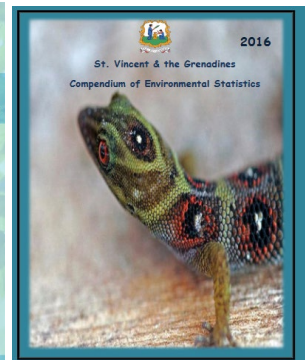
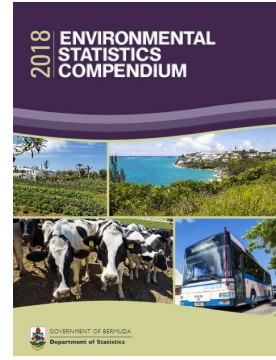
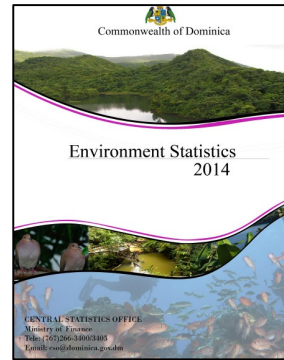
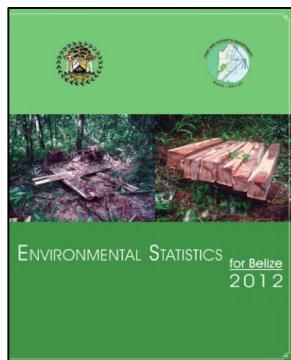
OUTPUT

A report with data on Environment Statistics, *The CARICOM Environment in Figures* is published. Moreover, a summary of the Environment Statistics is published on the CARICOM Statistics Programme website



CURRENT STATUS OF REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS

- The Caribbean Community Secretariat disseminated its fourth regional Environment Statistics Report “CARICOM Environment in Figures 2014” in 2017.
- Twelve (12) Member countries have already produced Environmental Reports.



- No publishable Environment report has yet been produced by 8 countries.
- Major focus on capacity building

CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

Activity	Year	Country(ies)	Source of Funds
Capacity Building and Training: in-country technical support	2005	Trinidad and Tobago, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Dominica	World Bank
Meeting on CARICOM Support for the Compilation and Dissemination of Environment Statistics Focusing on Biodiversity in Dominica	2012	Dominica, Antigua and Barbuda, Jamaica	European Commission funded Capacity Building related to MEAs in ACP countries - Caribbean Hub sub-component
Support for the compilation of Environment Statistics in the CARICOM Region	2015-2016	Barbados, Montserrat, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis and St. Vincent and the Grenadines	Tenth European Development Fund (10th EDF)

CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

Activity	Date	Country(ies)	Source of Funds
CARICOM Workshop to review the compilation of Environment Statistics and Indicators	September 12-13, 2005	The Bahamas	World Bank
CARICOM Workshop on Social/Gender and Environmental Statistics and Indicators- Assessment of Data Submitted by Member Countries and Development of an Action plan	July 20-24, 2009	Antigua and Barbuda	The World Bank in collaboration with United Nations Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean (UNECLAC) and the United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD)
CARICOM Workshop to Review the Compilation of Social/Gender and Environmental Statistics and Indicators	September 13-17, 2010	Suriname	9th EDF and Caribbean Integration Support Programme (CISP)
CARICOM Workshop on Environment Statistics and Indicators	September 12-16, 2011	St. Kitts and Nevis	9th EDF and Caribbean Integration Support Programme (CISP)
CARICOM Workshop on Environment Statistics	April 7-8, 2014	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	10th EDF CSME and Regional and Economic Integration Programme

CURRENT STATUS OF REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS

- Capacity Building
 - The Italian Development Cooperation/Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) funded project, “Support to Statistical Capacity in CARICOM Countries” executed by The Italian National Institute of Statistics, Istat
 - Technical assistance to Suriname and Jamaica
 - Assessments conducted on list of agreed indicators
- Technical Working Group on Environment Statistics established at Environment workshop in 2014
 - Meetings held in Dec 2016, Mar 2017, April 2018 (face-to-face and/or remotely)
 - Outputs include work plans in Environment Statistics
 - Review of review of environmentally related core indicator for the Sustainable Development Goals

CURRENT STATUS OF REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS

- **Fourth round of data collection**– 13 countries have submitted data, UNSD provided data for the themes Waste and Water and CTO provided tourism data;
- Bermuda followed by Jamaica have submitted an appreciable amount of indicators
- Data gaps in all thematic areas excluding Disasters;
- No data for the indicators under the theme Air Emissions
- Launch of fifth round of data collection - 2020

CHALLENGES/ NEEDS OF ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- Absence of an Environment Statistics Unit and the absence of dedicated staff working in the area of Environment Statistics at regional and national levels
- Lack of basic environmental statistics and indicators (or reporting of these consistently by countries)
- Frequency of production of indicators such as information on the housing stock and population and households
- Lack of support to enable engagement with stakeholders and in general to develop this area of statistics
- Need for greater inter-agency collaboration to enhance data sharing at the national level.



Areas of Development in relation to Environment Statistics under the Five Strategic Priorities of the CARICOM RSDS

- **Standards and Harmonisation**
 - Compilation and dissemination of harmonized indicators and statistics
 - All indicators and statistics harmonized with the revised FDES 2013 with the exception of the those classified under the theme, Tourism;
- **Governance**
 - Strengthening of inter-agency coordination to compile data and fill data gaps
 - Development of Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) with stakeholders in ES
- **Integrated Statistical System**
 - ES requires the integration of data from a number of sources
 - Requires a functional inter-agency committee to resolve issues in the transmission of ES data from stakeholders to the NSOs



Areas of Development in relation to Environment Statistics under the Five Strategic Priorities of the CARICOM RSDS (cont'd)

- **Innovation**

- Promote the use of advanced technology and new sources of data
- Promote the use of data gathering through satellite imagery and GIS technology which would reduce data gaps

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- **Advocacy and Communication**

- Raise awareness of ES data through CSD, annually, through the dissemination of The Environment Statistics Profile
- The development of a statistical literacy programme on Environment Statistics



Thank you for your attention!