



CARICOM



CARICOM PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

BACKGROUND

Programme Title:

**❖ The CARICOM Programme on
Strengthening Capacity in the
Compilation of Social/Gender and
Environment Statistics and Indicators
in the CARICOM Region;**



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Prior Project:

- ❖ In 2000 the United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD) and the CARICOM Secretariat implemented a Project, “The Strengthening of Capacity in the Compilation of Statistics and Indicators for Conference Follow-up in the CARICOM Region”;**



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Concerns of the UNSD/CARICOM Project:

- ❖ Rationalization of Statistics as an important tool in policy-making ;**
- ❖ In assessing and measuring the current social status and also in setting targets and objectives for the future;**



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Concerns of Project (continued):

- ❖ The stimulus to the measurement emanated from commitments made at International Conferences and the requisite follow-up was necessary to assess the implementation of goals;**



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Conferences included:

- ❖ Agenda 21, the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development;**
- ❖ The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;**



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**Implementation of these Commitments
required:**

- ❖ Policy development, networking of
National Experts at regional/ sub-
regional/ national/local levels ;**
- ❖ Information exchange and
dissemination;**



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Overall Objectives of the UNSD/CARICOM Project were:

- ❖ Reinforcing of South/South networks and creating opportunities for experts to learn from their peers;**
- ❖ Improving the capacity of national institutions to produce relevant statistics;**



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Overall Project Objectives (continued):

- ❖ Strengthening Regional Capabilities to produce analytical reports;**
- ❖ Ensuring the capability to share information and results between users and producers;**



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National Statistical Offices were to benefit through:

- ❖ The development of Statistical Capacity in Social/Gender and Environment Statistics;**
- ❖ Development of Information Technology Capabilities;**



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Main outcomes included:

- ❖ Regional Workshop for users and producers of statistics to sensitize on Social Genders issues;**
- ❖ Information Technology Workshops;**



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Main outcomes (continued):

- ❖ NSOs were provided with internet connectivity and equipment;**
- ❖ An IT expert conducted technical assistance & training in IT in NSOs across the Region;**



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Main outcomes (continued):

- ❖ Expert Group Meeting was also conducted to review the regional reports;**
- ❖ Study tours, small group technical assistance;**
- ❖ Regional Publications;**



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Constraints to Capacity Building:

- ❖ Human Resource Constraints;**
- ❖ The Year 2000 Round of Population and Housing Census – further resource constraints to implement Project ;**
- ❖ Limitations with respect to sex-disaggregated data;**



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Efforts at Sustainability:

- ❖ Project intention to build capacity required a phased and focused programme;**
- ❖ A Strategy was required to continue the collection and compilation of a core list of indicators;**



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Efforts at Sustainability (continued):

- ❖ Continuation of capacity building using workshops, technical assistance and provision of resources;**
- ❖ Continued collaboration with organizations such as UNSD, PAHO, ECLAC to develop a comprehensive framework in Social/Gender Statistics;**



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Current Programme:

- ❖ At the Twenty-Sixth Meeting of the Standing Committee for Caribbean Statisticians (SCCS) in The Bahamas in 2001 an Advisory Group was formed;**
- ❖ Main purpose was to review the past Project;**



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Current Programme:

- ❖ To advise on ways to institutionalize the compilation and dissemination of Social /Gender and Environment Statistics in the Region;**
- ❖ To encourage coordination of activities in the area of Social/Gender Statistics across organizations;**



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Current Programme:

- ❖ Terms of Reference were established and outputs were defined and the group was mandated to prepare a programme;**
- ❖ The Advisory Group held its second meeting in Dominica in 2002 at which the CARICOM Programme was formulated;**



CARICOM PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Current Programme-Main Objective:

To institutionalize the production of Social/Gender and Environment Statistics in the National Statistical Systems in order to inform policy formulation, that can improve the conditions of men and women and enable sustainable development of the Region;



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Current Programme- Significant input:

- ❖ In recognition of the usefulness of statistics in the national planning process a main input should be the investment of resources in the National Statistical Systems to enable continuity of the programme;**



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Current Programme- Components:

❖ Social/ Gender;

❖ Environment;

❖ Supported by IT and data dissemination strategy;



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Current Programme:

- ❖ Social/ Gender component began around October and will run until December 2003 with outputs to be finalised during the first quarter of 2004;**



CARICOM PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Current Programme:

- ❖ Environment component will be formulated during an Advisory Group Meeting around June 2003 and will commence approximately in October until December 2004;**



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Current Programme:

- ❖ The approach is to continue the programme with outputs being produced in alternate years;**



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Current Programme- Co-ordination & Collaboration:

Co-ordination:

- ❖ The Programme is coordinated by the CARICOM Secretariat;**
- ❖ Supporting organizations include UNSD, UNDP sub-regional office with other organizations also collaborating in the effort;**



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Current Programme- Details:

Framework of activities was designed;

- ❖ A core data set of indicators;**
- ❖ Documentation of data sources;**
- ❖ Documentation of meta data;**
- ❖ Procedures with respect to data compilation;**
- ❖ A strategy for data dissemination**



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Current Programme- Details:

- ❖ Additional Outputs were also identified:**
 - ❖ Monitoring and assessing of outputs;**
 - ❖ Production of manual/technical guide;**
 - ❖ Production of user-friendly manual;**



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Current Programme- Details:

- ❖ Working Group/National Statistical Coordinating Committee was also considered since essentially most of the data outside of the official Census and Surveys are produced by agencies other than NSOs;**



CARICOM PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Current Programme- Details:

- ❖ It was recognised that continuity/sustainability of the programme depended on the strengthening of ties among agencies at the national level;**



CARICOM PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Current Programme- Details:

- ❖ The drafting of a programme to reflect the sustainability of the process with respect to staffing, technical assistance, funding and strategies with respect to training, technology and inter-agency collaboration was therefore accomplished;**



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Other Aspects of Current Programme

- ❖ Seminars;**
- ❖ Workshops;**
- ❖ Attachments/study tours;**
- ❖ Short-term consultants;**



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Current Programme- Challenges and Opportunities;

- ❖ Opportunities for Staff Training will have to be provided on a continuous basis;**
- ❖ Commitment by governments to substantive funding would be required;**



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Current Programme-Challenges and Opportunities;

- ❖ Coordination activity by the NSOs within each Member State to guide agencies concerned with data collection;**
- ❖ The need to establish national statistical councils;**



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**Current Programme Challenges and
Opportunities;**

- ❖ Compilation of statistics in non-traditional areas;**
- ❖ Ensuring that the data are disaggregated by sex;**



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Current Programme-Challenges and Opportunities;

- ❖ Staffing: The issue of integration of these statistics within NSOs/ agencies is fundamental taking into consideration size of unit, staff turnover etc;**



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Current Programme- Challenges and Opportunities;

❖ Training: Priority is to be given to training within the programme and this is being addressed through the SCCS relative to a formal institutional framework;



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Current Programme- Challenges and Opportunities;

- ❖ Network of Professionals: This is another way through which capacity building can be sustained;**
- ❖ Development of skills and technical know-how to identify gender issues;**



CARICOM PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Current Programme-Challenges and Opportunities;

- ❖ To expose professionals to the principles and methods of compiling, analysing and disseminating statistics on Social/Gender and the Environment;**



CARICOM PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Current Programme- Details:

Challenges and Opportunities;

- ❖ Accessing of training programmes by NSOs and agencies was recommended and a preliminary list of institutes offering training was prepared as part of the programme;**



CARICOM PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Current Programme- Work Progress:

- ❖ CARICOM Secretariat has recruited an experienced Statistician to implement the programme from October 2002;**
- ❖ From the Programme Implementation Schedule an Implementation Plan has been developed;**



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Current Programme- Work Progress:

- ❖ List of indicators was refined and circulated to a wider group of experts in the Region;**
- ❖ Organization of the metadata previously collected under the Project;**



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Current Programme- Work Progress:

- ❖ An Inventory of the Status of Social Statistics in Member States was undertaken and the results are being evaluated;**
- ❖ The formats for the collection, compilation of the Social/Gender Statistics have been prepared;**



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Current Programme- Work Progress:

- ❖ Procedures/guidelines for data collection and compilation, selection of software are also being refined;**
- ❖ Review of data sources;**
- ❖ Table formats are to be submitted to SIMDG through the NSO /Chairperson**



CARICOM PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Current Programme- Work Progress:

- ❖ A strategy for the establishment of the national statistical coordinating committees was prepared;**
- ❖ Schedule of meetings in Member States;**



CARICOM PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Current Programme- Incorporation of Millennium Development Goals (MDGS):

- ❖ At the Third Advisory Group Meeting included in the agenda was a review of the indicators in the context of the MDGs;**
- ❖ Important that these MDGs be monitored.**



THE END