

**EASTERN CARIBBEAN CENTRAL BANK**



**STATISTICS ACTION PLAN  
DEVELOPED DURING THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON STATISTICS  
5 - 7 SEPTEMBER 2007**

**REVISED: 13 JUNE 2008**

**COMPONENT: INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING**

**OBJECTIVES: To strengthen the capacity of the Central Statistics Offices and the Statistics Agencies to produce timely, accurate and comprehensive data**

	ACTIVITY	ACTION REQUIRED	EXECUTING AGENCY	DATE	COMMENTS
1	<b>DEVELOPING A STATISTICAL SYSTEM</b>				
	<i>Institutional</i>				
a	Institutional strengthening of the Statistics Office Structure Staffing Technology	Discuss and implement recommended structure and proposed staffing of the Statistics Offices	Government Statistics Offices	2010	Proposal developed by the ECCB
b	Strengthening of statistical agencies	Assess the status of the statistics agencies and make recommendations for improvements	Governments	2010	To be undertaken
c	Improved coordination between compliers and users of statistics	Establish the National Statistics Advisory Commission	Governments	2009	Terms of Reference establishmend and discussed with the Directors of Statistics
d	Raise the profile and awareness of statistics	Establish an Association of Professionals	Directors of Statistics	2009	To be undertaken

	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ACTION REQUIRED</b>	<b>EXECUTING AGENCY</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
e	Regional coordination in support of the National Statistics Advisory Commission and the National Statistics System	Establish a body which is mandated by Treaty with the authority to set work programme priorities and standards	Governments ECCB OECS	2010	To be undertaken
	<b><i>Legal Framework</i></b>				
a	Establish the Bureau of Statistics	Establish independent statistics offices (e.g. STATIN of Jamaica)	Governments	2010	To be undertaken

**COMPONENT: CAPACITY BUILDING****OBJECTIVES: To strengthen the human resources required to provide good quality statistics**

	ACTIVITY	ACTION REQUIRED	EXECUTING AGENCY	DATE	COMMENTS
1	<b>STRENGTHENING SKILLS</b>	Develop a training programme which balances attachments, external courses and in-house training based on interministerial and regional cooperation.	Central Statistics Offices	2009	To be undertaken
		Develop a programme of training in sampling techniques and questionnaire design		2009	To be undertaken
		Provide attractive remuneration to retain competent staff	Governments	2010	To be undertaken
		Upgrade statisticians to become competent IT users	Central Statistic Offices	2010	To be undertaken

	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ACTION REQUIRED</b>	<b>EXECUTING AGENCY</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
2	<b>INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</b>				
a	Data Warehousing	Integrate families of related data bases to extend reach of data queries, mining and warehousing	Central Statistics Offices ECCB OECS CBD	2010	Ongoing. Project proposal developed.
b	Standardisation of systems	Standardisation of systems by regional collaboration among users	Central Statistics Offices ECCB OECS CBD	2010	To be undertaken

**COMPONENT: DATA DESSEMINATION****OBJECTIVES: To improve the timeliness of data**

	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ACTION REQUIRED</b>	<b>EXECUTING AGENCY</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
1	<b>DATA DISSEMINATION STANDARDS</b>	Clearly defined methodologies that are consistent with international standards: GDDS and SDDS	Central Statistics Offices ECCB	2009	To be undertaken
2	<b>DISSEMINATION STRATEGY</b>	Establish Data Release Calendars (a) Preliminary, revised and final (b) Commentaries or short explanations	Central Statistics Offices ECCB	2009	Completion of Data Release Calendar. Other methods, besides websites, for the release of data to be determined
Utilise newspapers, websites and press conferences on release					
Establish website for Statistics Offices					

**COMPONENT: DATA DEVELOPMENT****OBJECTIVES: To improve the quality and comprehensiveness of data**

	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ACTION REQUIRED</b>	<b>EXECUTING AGENCY</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
1	<b>CLOSING THE DATA GAPS</b>	Develop systems for the provision of: (a) Labour Market Information (b) Literacy Indicators (c) Poverty Indices (d) Crime Statistics (e) Environment Statistics	Central Statistics Offices ECCB OECS	2010	To be undertaken
2	<b>STRENGTHENING THE EXISTING DATA</b>				
a	Consumer Price Indices	Review and implement revised base year and basket of goods for the CPI and the methodology for calculating inflation.	Central Statistics Offices ECCB	2009	Ongoing. Countries have agreed to complete the process by 2009
b	National Income Accounts	(i) Complete the Supply and Use Tables	Central Statistics Offices ECCB	2009	Ongoing. This is presently targeted for December 2008
		(ii) Update the base year and structure for the national income accounts			

	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ACTION REQUIRED</b>	<b>EXECUTING AGENCY</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
c	Balance of Payments	Broaden the survey to include trade in services	Central Statistics Offices ECCB	2009	Ongoing. This is presently targeted for March 2009
d	Fiscal Accounts	(i) Compile fiscal accounts based on GFS 2001	Ministries of Finance	2009	Workshop on the GFS to be held in November 2009. A programme for going forward to be established.
		(ii) Broaden the coverage statutory bodies			
e	Monetary Data	Broaden the coverage to include non-bank financial institutions	ECCB	2009	Ongoing
f	Work Programme Priorities	(i) Commence and develop the Tourism Satellite Account	Central Statistics Offices Caribbean Tourism Org	2009	Country Reports Required
		(ii) Commence preparation for the 2010 Census	Central Statistics Offices ECCB OECS	2008	Country Reports Required

**COMPONENT: PUBLIC AWARENESS****OBJECTIVES: To increase the awareness of the importance of good quality statistics in policy making**

	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ACTION REQUIRED</b>	<b>EXECUTING AGENCY</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
1	<b>PROFILE OF THE STATISTICS OFFICES</b>	Establish a group of professional statisticians	Central Statistics Offices	2009	Proposal put forward in discussion with CIDA
2	<b>DATA RELEASE</b>	Regular release of a core set of data in a consistent and timely manner	Central Statistics Offices	2009	Data Release Calendar Established. Core set of data to be determined.
3	<b>CLIENT RELATIONSHIP (ENGAGEMENT)</b>	(i) Undertake regular surveys (ii) Obtain feedback from clients (iii) Repond to users' queries	Central Statistics Offices	2009	To be Undertaken
4	<b>PUBLIC EDUCATION</b>	Undertake public relations functions	Central Statistics Offices ECCB OECS	2009	Following the Nevis Model. Schedule could be developed.