

# Strengthening of Statistical Capacity – Establishment of Statistical Training Programme in the Region Implications for Existing Programmes

Presenter

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# THE SALISES POSITION ON STATISTICAL TRAINING

- The Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies has over the years demonstrated its commitment to strengthening statistical capacity within the Caribbean Region
- It continues to do so in collaboration with colleagues from other arms of The University of the West Indies across the three campuses
- Recognizes the contribution of BESS and the Certificate of Statistics offered by UTech

# RATIONALE

- There is recognition of the need for widespread statistical training in the Caribbean Region
- CISTAR: A Non-Starter
- Undergraduate training: BESS (Faculty of Social Sciences, UWI, Mona), Certificate in Statistics (UTech, Jamaica)
- Otherwise, training initiatives are pursued and opportunities for training arise but in a sporadic manner. Mixed benefits and sometimes benefits never materialize
- Prospect is real for institutionalizing and customizing development research and professional training with reference to enhancing human development initiatives

# THREE PRINCIPAL AREAS

- SALISES wishes to make major contributions in collaboration with other regional agencies in institutionalizing the following:
  - 17<sup>th</sup> In-Service Statistics Training Course – Central Statistical Office, Trinidad and Tobago
  - First Regional Demographic Analysis Course
  - Proposed Masters Degree in Development Statistics



# 17<sup>th</sup> IN-SERVICE TRAINING COURSE

# 17<sup>th</sup> IN-SERVICE STATISTICS TRAINING COURSE TARGETS

- Statistical Officers and other technical support staff from the Central Statistical Office and other departments of government ministries
- Official Statisticians

# 17<sup>th</sup> IN-SERVICE STATISTICS TRAINING COURSE ADMINISTRATION

## ● Financial Support

- Ministry of Planning and Development, The Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

## ● Executing Agency

- The Central Statistical Office (CSO), Trinidad and Tobago
- Sessions were held in the Training Room (CSO)
- Collaboration with SALISES, UWI, St. Augustine
- Period of Training – April - June 2006

## ● Resource Personnel

- SALISES Staff
- Other Allied UWI Staff
- Private Consultants
- CSO Professional/Technical Staff

# 17<sup>th</sup> IN-SERVICE STATISTICS TRAINING COURSE SALISES CONTRIBUTION

## ● Resource Persons

- Dr. Godfrey St. Bernard – SALISES, St. Augustine
- Mr. Martin Franklin – Dept of Economics, UWI, St. Augustine
- Mr. Rudy Singh – UWI, St. Augustine
- Ms. Kenisha Ballantyne – Research Assistant, SALISES
- Dr. Dennis Browne – Dept of Behavioural Sciences, UWI, St. Augustine
- Ms. Lynette Joseph-Browne – Private Consultant

## ● Modules Facilitated by SALISES

- Statistical Analysis
- Data Analysis Using SPSS
- Research Methods (including Survey Research)
- Demography

# 17<sup>th</sup> IN-SERVICE STATISTICS TRAINING COURSE CSO CONTRIBUTION

## ● Resource Persons

- Professional Staff of the CSO
- Technical Staff of the CSO
- Training Officer

## ● Modules Facilitated by SALISES

- Official Statistics
- Economics
- Geographic Information Systems

# 17<sup>th</sup> IN-SERVICE STATISTICS TRAINING COURSE PARTICIPATION CHARACTERISTICS

## ● Most Recent Course

- 29 participants
- Mainly from the CSO., Trinidad (26 persons)
- Ministry of Labour (1 person)
- Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (1 person)
- Tobago House of Assembly (1 person)

## ● Past Courses

- CSO, Trinidad
- Tobago House of Assembly
- Other Government Departments – Trinidad and Tobago
- National Statistical Offices – CARICOM Countries

# 17<sup>th</sup> IN-SERVICE STATISTICS TRAINING COURSE EVALUATION STANDARDS

- Standards were jointly developed by the CSO and SALISES
  - Grading Scheme – Developed and Available from the CSO
  - Statistical Analysis (including SPSS)
    - Individual Assignments
    - Group Assignments
    - Written Examinations
    - Quizzes
  - Demography
    - Two Individual Assignments
- Everybody was successful and obtained a Certificate of Achievement

# 17<sup>th</sup> IN-SERVICE STATISTICS TRAINING COURSE FUTURE DIRECTION

- SALISES has indicated an interest in further collaboration with the CSO in mounting future In-Service Training Courses
- The Caribbean Development Bank has expressed a willingness in partnering with CSO and SALISES in this venture as a means of enabling the course to reach participants from the wider Caribbean
  - Hence prospective funding from the CDB to enable participants from other Caribbean countries to travel to CSO, Trinidad and Tobago and participate in the course.
  - The course could be used as a model for training officers who support professionals who engage in quantitative analyses in the execution of their duties
  - The Course should be supported as an annual event until some saturation point is attained after which it could be supported every biennium or triennium.



# FIRST REGIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS COURSE

# FIRST REGIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS COURSE TARGETS

- Statisticians and other technical staff from the National Statistical Offices across the Caribbean Region
- Professional and technical officers from Government Departments that use demographic techniques and analysis in their work routines
- Inter-governmental departments such as CARICOM that have professional and technical officers who may be required to use, interpret and analyze demographic data and other related phenomena

# FIRST REGIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS COURSE ADMINISTRATION

- Financial Support
  - Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
  
- Executing Agency
  - CARICOM Secretariat
  - Sessions were held in SALISES, UWI, St. Augustine
  - Collaboration between CARICOM, SALISES (UWI, St. Augustine), Dept. of Sociology and Social Work (UWI, Mona) and UNECLAC
  - Period of Training – July 3 – August 11, 2006
  
- Resource Personnel
  - SALISES, UWI, St. Augustine
  - Dept. of Sociology and Social Work, UWI, Mona
  - CARICOM Secretariat, Statistics Division
  - UNECLAC, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
  - UNECLAC, Santiago, Chile

# FIRST REGIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS COURSE RESOURCE PERSONS

- Professor Chukwudum Uche - Dept of Sociology and Social Work, UWI, Mona, Principal Consultant
- Dr. Godfrey St. Bernard – SALISES, St. Augustine
- Mr. Sylvan Roberts – CARICOM Secretariat
- Ms. Beverly Andrews – CARICOM Secretariat
- Dr. Karoline Schmid – UNECLAC, Port of Spain
- Ms. Guiomar Bay – UNECLAC, Santiago, Chile
- Ms. Samantha John, UWI, Mona

# FIRST REGIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS COURSE COURSE MODULES

## ● Ten Modules

- Sources of Demographic Data
- Assessing Data Quality
- Demographic Theories
- Nuptiality
- Model Life tables and Stable Populations
- Migration
- Indirect Techniques of Estimation
- Fertility
- Population Estimates and Projections
- Mortality

# FIRST REGIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS COURSE PARTICIPATION COUNTRIES

- Anguilla
- Antigua and Barbuda
- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belize
- Bermuda
- Dominica
- Grenada
- Guyana
- Jamaica
- St. Kitts and Nevis
- St. Lucia
- St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- Suriname
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Turks and Caicos Islands

# FIRST REGIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS COURSE PARTICIPATION CHARACTERISTICS

- Twenty-two participants
- One participant from every country except Trinidad and Tobago that had five participants
- Mainly officers at the level of statistical officers and statisticians

# FIRST REGIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS COURSE EVALUATION STANDARDS

- Standards were jointly developed by the CARICOM, Dept of Sociology and Social Work (UWI, Mona) and SALISES (UWI, St. Augustine)
  - Grading Scheme – Developed in accordance with UWI undergraduate grading scheme
  - Marking Scheme was consistent with that used for UWI undergraduate courses
  - An assignment was submitted for every module and graded as part of the candidates' evaluation
  - Two examinations were given to the candidates. The first one covering the first five modules and the second covering the last five modules
- Everybody was successful and obtained a Certificate of Achievement

# FIRST REGIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS COURSE FUTURE DIRECTION

- SALISES (UWI, St. Augustine) has indicated an interest in further collaboration with the CSO in mounting future Regional Demographic Analysis Course in conjunction with CARICOM, the Dept of Sociology and Social Work (UWI, Mona) and any other allied stakeholders
- The Caribbean Development Bank has expressed a willingness in partnering with CARICOM in this venture as a means of enabling the course to reach participants from the wider Caribbean
  - Hence prospective funding from the CDB geared towards strengthening capabilities consistent with the model established on the basis of the First Regional Demographic Analysis Course
  - The Course should be supported as an annual event until some saturation point is attained after which it could be supported every biennium or triennium
- For further details, see the Course Evaluation prepared by the Principal Consultant and lodged with the CARICOM Secretariat

# PROPOSED MASTERS DEGREE IN DEVELOPMENT STATISTICS



# TARGETS

- Official Statisticians
- Allied Professionals who use statistics in policy relevant spheres
- Derived demand for statistical services through training of professionals hence further demand for training

# ADMINISTRATION - LOCATION

- SALISES St. Augustine – On site
- Prospect of Distance Model through UWIDEC
- Nucleus of the Programme in St. Augustine

# ADMINISTRATION – RESOURCE PERSONS

- SALISES Staff (All Campuses)
- Wider Social Science Faculty (All Campuses)
- Wider UWI Faculty (All Campuses)
- Associate Faculty
  - Specialists from National Statistical Offices
  - Specialists from Regional/International Offices
  - Part-Time Enumeration for Faculty

# ADMINISTRATION – WORK PROGRAMME

## ● Applied Statistics Training

- Social and Demographic Statistics
- Economic Statistics
- Survey Research
- Monitoring and Evaluation

## ● Short Term Professional Training

## ● Applied Research

- Software development
- Establishment of statistical methodologies
- Technical issues arising in the context of statistical analysis
- Methodologies for promoting statistical education and statistical literacy
- Establishing a scholarly journal flagging statistical issues that are relevant to the Caribbean and other developing country issues

# ADMINISTRATION – FUNDING/ADVOCACY

- The UWI
- The CDB, DFID, CIDA
- UNFPA, UNDP, UNIFEM, UNICEF, ILO
- PAHO, CAREC
- ECLAC, CARICOM, OECS
- Other Stakeholders

# PROPOSED M. Sc. PROGRAMME

## ● Compulsory Courses

- Development Theory and Policy
- Research Methods in the Social Sciences
- Specialized Research Techniques

## ● Areas of Specialization

- Social and Demographic Statistics
- Economic Statistics
- Survey Research
- Monitoring and Evaluation

# COMPULSORY COURSES

## SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

- Topics and Issues in Survey Research
- Demographic Techniques I
- Demographic Techniques II
- Topics and Issues in Social Statistics

# COMPULSORY COURSES

## ECONOMIC STATISTICS

- Topics and Issues in Survey Research
- National Accounts
- Index Numbers/Financial Statistics/International Trade Statistics
- Time Series

# COMPULSORY COURSES

## SURVEY RESEARCH

- Topics and Issues in Survey Research
- Survey Sampling – Design and Estimation
- Elements of Official Statistics
- Monitoring and Evaluation

# COMPULSORY COURSES

## MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- Topics and Issues in Survey Research
- Experimental Research
- Elements of Official Statistics
- Monitoring and Evaluation

# ELECTIVES

- Elements of GIS/Mapping – Dept. of Land and Information Systems
- Special Reading Courses
  - Advanced Topics in Survey Sampling
  - Advanced Topics in Time Series Analysis
  - Advanced Topics in Statistical Analysis
  - Other Specialized Readings
- Census and Survey Administration
- Statistical Computing
- Analyzing Secondary Data
- Markov Chains
- Mathematical Statistics
- Any of the Compulsory Courses

# RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

- Received widespread support from Faculty of Social Sciences in UWI, St. Augustine
- Before acceptance, there is a need to develop course outlines for the proposed courses and identify course materials
- Development of course outline for the main domains of the programme is to be done on a phased basis starting with the Social and Demographic Statistics Specialization and then the Survey Research Specialization. Other course profiles will be developed as resources to fulfill such mandates come on board

# WHAT'S NEXT?

- Take to Campus Faculty Board and higher decision making authorities for endorsement within the University
- Obtain support of key stakeholders
- Prospective Target Date: Sept 2007



IN  
CONCLUSION

# CONCLUDING REMARKS

- For more than two decades the SALISES, formerly the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER), has been making its contribution to institutional strengthening with regard to statistical and other quantitative inputs that underlie the operations of a number of stakeholder agencies
- The SALISES has recently made contributions to the following:
  - The 17<sup>th</sup> In Service Statistics Training Course
  - The First Regional Demographic Analysis Course
- The SALISES also proposes to mount a Masters in Development Statistics, hopefully by Sept 2007 on a phased basis beginning with the Masters with specializations in Social and Demographic Statistics and Survey Research
- The SALISES is committed to all of the above initiatives and wishes to continue supporting and resourcing such initiatives as they are realized in the future
- The SALISES also wishes to mount short courses similar to the Regional Demographic Analysis Course in areas such as Survey Sampling, Basic Statistical Analysis, Intermediate Statistical Analysis, Advanced Statistical Analysis, Research Methods, Qualitative Research Designs, Experimental Designs, Evaluation Research, Time Series Analysis, to name a few.



THANKING YOU FOR  
YOUR ATTENTION