NATIONAL POLICIES AND PLANS WHERE CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTER STATISTICS AND INDICATORS ARE REQUIRED

Presentation Outline

- Overview of DoE
- Main Climate Change Challenges Nationally
- Policies to address environmental and climate change challenges
- Data Gaps
- The Way Forward Bridging the Gaps

Background

- Department of Environment was created by an Act of Parliament in April 1996
- National Conservation and Environment Protection Act (NCEPA)#5, 1987

Role and Responsibilities

- to initiate, oversee, co-ordinate, integrate, regulate, facilitate and monitor environmental protection and conservation strategies and measures
- to initiate and implement environmental policies, programmes and projects in order to achieve sustainable development
- to oversee environmental policies, programmes and projects undertaken by other departments and ministries
- to negotiate environmental treaties initiated by regional and international inter-governmental organisations
- to provide information, data, statistics, and reports to several intergovernmental organisations and non-governmental organisations

Main Climate Change Challenges

<u>Climate Change Issues</u>

- Higher temperatures and drought leading to critical water shortages
- Coastal Erosion leading to loss of beach and damage to coastal infrastructure
- Increase in the number of hurricanes; stronger hurricanes

Environmental Issues

- Illegal sand mining
- Illegal dumping of waste
- Agricultural encroachment into the Central Forest Reserve



Areas where Policy Action is Needed

• Climate Change Legislation that governs mitigation measures

• Sand mining policy

Monitoring and Enforcement



National policies to address environmental and climate change challenges

• National Conservation and Environment Protection Act #5, 1987

• Draft National Conservation and Environment Management Act (2022?)

- St. Kitts and Nevis National Climate Change Policy, 2017
- National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for St. Kitts and Nevis, 2018

• Revised Nationally Determined Contributions, 2021









International and Regional Commitments









Department of Environment

Data Gaps

There are Climate Change data gaps in all sectors

- Data collected is not standardized
- Data is collected and stored in a non digitized format
- Environmental data collection not prioritized
- Data is not accessible



The Way Forward – Bridging the Gap

- Centralized Climate Change and Environmental Data
- Implement recording and reporting data standards
- Collaboration between the different agencies that collect, manipulate and store the data



Thank You for Listening



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