Types of data sources for environment, climate change & disaster statistics in St. Vincent & the Grenadines, strengths and weaknesses

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Content

- National data and Publications available
- Sources of data used in country
  - Strengths and weaknesses of these data sources
- Ways forward

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National data

- Rainfall
- Fresh water abstraction
- River flow
- Vehicles imported by type
- Natural Hazards & Disasters
- Energy production (Fossil Fuel & Renewable)
- Fossil fuel imports
- Fish landed
- Green House Gas Emission

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National data

- Coral Reefs in danger
- Temperature and humidity
- Marine and terrestrial protected areas
- Forested area
- Endangered Species (Biodiversity)
- Solar radiation
- Population
- Waste collected and disposed

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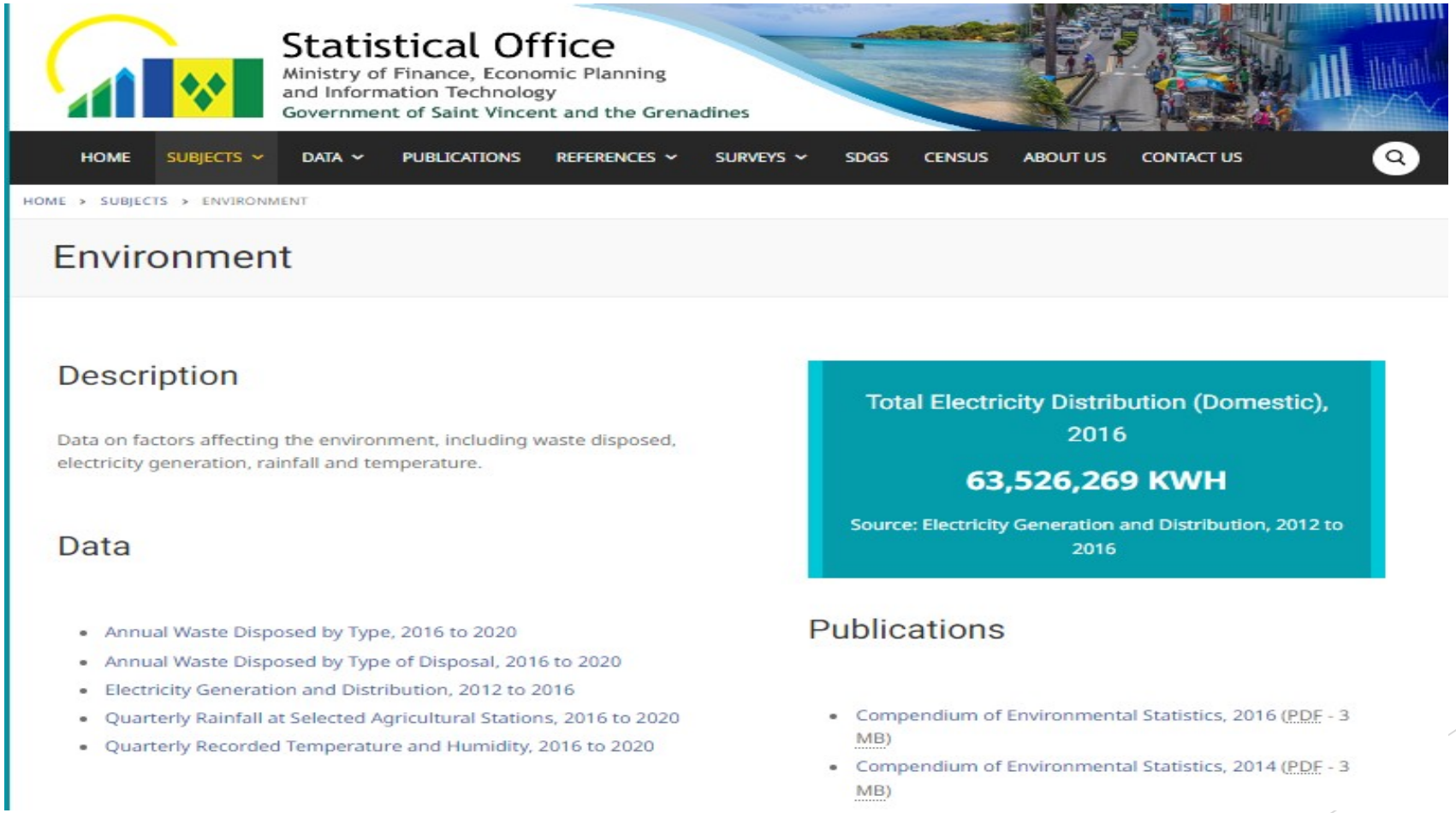
National data



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National publications

- Compendium of environmental statistics
- Digest of statistics
- Environmental assessments from projects (e.g. RDVRP)
- National Climate change adaptation Plan

- Reports/Publications from reputable international organizations (ECLAC, UN, IOM, etc.)

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Data sources used in the country for Environment Climate change & Disasters

- Administrative data -
  - Organizations collect the data directly through measurements/observation
  - usually quantitative and in tabular form
  - E.g. rainfall, temperature, fossil fuel imports, energy generation.

- Census and Surveys (interviewing) –
  - Individuals, families or groups are interviewed to gather information.
  - Usually using a questionnaire
  - E.g. natural hazards, population affected by events associated with climate change

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Data sources used in the country for Environment Climate change & Disasters

- Studies/Research –
  - GHG levels, fish stock
- Websites-
  - Data previously collected is made available online.
  - Tables, publications
  - Secondary source of data
- Repositories and data bases –
  - Satellite imagery
  - Over head photography

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Strengths & Weaknesses of the data sources used

- **Administrative data**

Strengths	Weaknesses
• Usually inexpensive • Data can be collected as frequently as required • Can be used to replace or supplement other data • Can be used to make estimates, projections or determine trends • Can be used in comparison with other sources of data	• Can be outdated (timeliness) • Prone to bias • Can be costly at times • Records can be incomplete. Can be incorrect due to unstandardized data collection

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Strengths & Weaknesses of the data sources used

- **Censuses and surveys**

Strengths	Weaknesses

• Surveys
  • Low cost
  • Can be tailored to a specific purpose
  • Different methods of data collection can be used
  • Can be done as frequently as needed
	• Inflexible at times
	• If not designed properly the questionnaire used may collect improper data
	• Dependent on human response

• Censuses
  • Representative
  • Gathers data that can be compared over many subject areas.
	• Expensive
	• Takes time to complete
	• Infrequent
	• Dependent on human response

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Strengths & Weaknesses of the data sources used

- Research, websites & repositories

Strengths	Weaknesses

• Research/Studies
  • Collects relevant & detailed data
  • Produces analytical reports
	• Infrequent
	• Costly
	• Can be subject to biases

• Websites
  • Easily accessible data
  • Large variety of data
  • Large volume of data in one place
	• Sources may not be the most reputable
	• Data may not be correct
	• Data may not have been source in country

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Strengths & Weaknesses of the data sources used

- Databases & Repositories

Strengths	Weaknesses
• Accessible • A lot of data • Usually has historical Data along with more recent data	• Expensive • May be inaccessible to individuals • May require additional assistance such as programs

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Way forward

- Develope a National Strategy for the Development of statistics (NSDS)
- Collect data on predertmined indicators
- Build capacity among national data collectors
- Increase budget for climate change data collection
- Increase the frequency at which environmental/climate change data is collected
- Advocate for the increased use of environmental/climate change data in policy making
- Make data more accessible to the public
- Collaborate with international organizations to update data

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Thank You

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