



Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States

UNECLAC Seventh Meeting of the Caribbean Development Roundtable

The Caribbean: recovery and repositioning in the context of
COVID-19 and beyond

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Responding to the data and statistical capacity needs of the OECS Member States

The Commission, recognises that there is a need to develop statistical capacity within our Member States; for we posit ‘that data is the currency of any efficient and effective economic / social system.’ Without data / information / statistics a country’s policy interventions and support programmes are merely shots in the dark- hence a waste of **scarce** resources. The COVID era has further elucidated the need for production of reliable, accurate and timely statistics for decision making.



World Bank Funded OECS Data for Decision Making Project



Countries Signed Unto this Project with the Bank	Grenada, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines
Total Finance (\$):	USD5m
OECS Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To create an OECS statistics and data eco-system to facilitate evidence- driven policy and programs that will support the ambition of the Revised Treaty of Basseterre.• To align the OECS initiative with a broader CARICOM eco-system hosted by the Caribbean Development Bank (Data Hub) and supported by development partners.
Effective Date	June 2022



Component 3.1

OECS Regional Data Governance Council (RDGC)

Under the project the OECS will strengthen the OECS's data governance structure and capacity to harmonize, coordinate and integrate regional data by establishing the RDGC. The RDGC is expected to introduce a culture of academic rigor in statistical innovations while remaining mindful of the local context and the need for local credibility and promoting harmonization in the OECS region. The RDGC will:

1. Be tasked with the harmonization of data policies and practices, including how economic, social, and climate and environmental data are captured, produced, managed, and propagated across the OECS region;

2. through its working groups, lead the decisions on statistical harmonization, test new instruments and make recommendations to the NSOs based on the findings;

3. Support the implementation of the OECS Regional Strategy for the Development of Statistics, which aims to inform and evaluate the OECS integration agenda

4. Help to adapt international statistical classification systems; and the utilization of common methodologies for statistical production and dissemination by all OECS Member States.



Component 3.2

Data Innovation for Small Island Developing States

This subcomponent will support experimentation of methodological innovations and uses of alternative data that are promising for small island state contexts, as well as the dissemination of the experiment results, guided by the RDGC.

Piloting of new or revised survey instruments (e.g. Labour Force, AG. Census, SLC etc.)

Using administrative data to complement survey statistics and perhaps replace censuses in future

Using telephone surveys / web surveys to collect data: how can these be improved/used better?

"Using machine learning programmes, use of GIS, (drones) to collect data/imagery

Exploration of other /advanced data gathering equipment



Component 3.3

Regional Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

- ▶ Providing a myriad of accredited courses in statistics and its related fields, through OECS Learning Resource Center (OECS LRC) in partnership with accredited online providers.
- ▶ Web-based lectures partnering with IDPs (StatCan, Euro Stats, IMF, ILO, UNSD, UNFPA, UNECLAC)
- ▶ Formal training and technical assistance thru south-south cooperation among Member States (LFS, CENSUS, CAPI etc)
- ▶ Data Modeling using emerging technologies including artificial intelligence technology
- ▶ Direct Technical Assistance (short term consultancies)
- ▶ Capacity building in analysis and report writing and Monitoring and Evaluation

This subcomponent aims to strengthen the capacity of the participating countries to produce high quality harmonized data by providing training and technical assistance to NSO and NSS staff



Component 3.4 Regional Data Aggregation, Analysis, and Dissemination

- ▶ Commissioned research and reports/ publication on the OECS MSs (migration, health, education, etc)
- ▶ Popularisation of data and stats through infographics and other products
- ▶ Compiling annual / quarterly regional bulletins would be useful to track key indicators for the OECS region
- ▶ OECS Regional Data Catalog which is critical for data archiving and visibility of the data produced in the OECS region
- ▶ Integrated portals for Data & GIS information
- ▶ Maintenance of OECS Data portal - (including SDG monitoring)

This subcomponent will support the production of regional analytics and increased availability of new and in some cases existing data sets which will allow for time series analyses.



Beyond Project Financing

PARTNERS	SPECIFIC AREAS
Caribbean Development Bank	Data hub
CARICOM	Data hub and efforts of harmonisation
POTENTIAL PARTNER	SPECIFIC OPPORTUNITY
Statistics Canada	Direct Training and training content
Euro Stats	Direct Training and training content
IMF	Direct Training and training content
ILO	Training content, Joint research, Policy formulation
UNSD	Direct Training and training content
UNFPA	Direct Training and training content
UNESCO	Direct Training and training content
UNECLAC and other arms of the UN System	Direct Training and training content
IOM - International Organization on Migration	Migration data, Joint research



Thank You!

Please send email to sherma.beroo@oecs.int for more details and any areas of collaboration that jumps to you immediately or later. We are more than ready to work with our regional and international partners to build capacity in this region.

