



Seventeenth Meeting of
the Executive Committee
of the Statistical
Conference of the
Americas for Latin
America and the
Caribbean
Santiago, 3-4
October 2018

**ROUND TABLE ON THE FRAMEWORK OF INDICATORS
FOR MONITORING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
GOALS FOR THE CARIBBEAN**

**THE SITUATION IN THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY
(CARICOM)**

Presented by:

The CARICOM Secretariat



OVERVIEW

- Caribbean Community at a Glance- (CARICOM comprises 15 Member States and 5 Associate Members);
- Highlights of Activities pre 2017 – 2030 Agenda Process
- Key Decisions of the Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians (SCCS);
- Highlights of Activities 2017+ ;
- Some Conclusions.

CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY AT A GLANCE



• Total land space : 462, 472 sq km
• Languages: English, Dutch, French, Indigenous

NATURAL DISASTERS

AFTERMATH OF HURRICANE
MARIA-Dominica
devastated



Aftermath of Hurricane Maria



- Coming together of Member Countries to support Dominica-Spirit of the Community

CARICOM at a Glance

1

Natural
disasters

2

External
economic and
financial shocks

3

Narrow
resource base

4

Climate
Change

KEY VULNERABILITIES

- **Key Challenges:**

- ▶ Small size- lack of capacity difficulty in getting staff with the relevant skill set;
- ▶ Increased demand for statistics in an environment of declining financial resources, resulting in critical data gaps;
- ▶ Outdated legislative frameworks;
- ▶ Uncoordinated national statistical systems (NSS)/impact data exchange/quality;
- ▶ Inadequate Investment/ Reduced Budget Allocations:
 - Inadequate investment to boost growth and development imply that investment in statistics that can sustain capacity building is not realized.
 - Reduced budget allocations to undertake basic statistical operations/ result in persistent data gaps



Highlights of Activities Pre 2017 - 2030 Agenda Process

- The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians (SCCS) and the CARICOM Advisory Group on Statistics (AGS) have been proactive in placing on its agenda the indicators to monitor the SDGs dating back to the **39th Meeting of the SCCS in 2013** (reversal of MDGs process);
- An early and key recommendation of the 39th SCCS was that of identifying a **Core Set of Indicators** to be produced by **CARICOM Small Island Developing States**;
- The **Second High Level Advocacy Forum (May 2014)** was convened **and had** at its underlying theme the Data Revolution that was highlighted by the High Level Panel of Eminent Persons re the SDGs development;



Highlights of Activities Pre 2017 - 2030 Agenda Process

- **Action Plan for Statistics** was developed by the SCCS in **2015** from the recommendations out of the Second High Level Forum on Statistics (2014) to address the **statistical requirements and the corresponding capacity-building needs** for the CARICOM Statistical System (CSS) of the 2030 Agenda and was endorsed by the **Conference of Heads of Government of CARICOM at its 37th Meeting in 2016**.
- The CARICOM Secretariat (CCS) was mandated by the **Council for Trade and Economic Development** (2014/2015) to provide support to Member States relative to the Inter-governmental Negotiations that was to take place prior to the **High-Level Summit on the SDGs in September 2015**- the Member State of Belize led the negotiating process for CARICOM;
- As a consequence of the Mandate, the CCS and one Member State **briefed the Permanent Missions of Member States in 2015 to the UN prior to the commencement of the Intergovernmental Negotiations** on the SDGs at a meeting held in New York and also provided the requisite support during these negotiations;



Highlights of Activities Pre 2017- 2030 Agenda Process

- The CCS also convened a **regional training workshop in 2015** to inform Member States about the preliminary list of indicators proposed at the global level and to review these indicators.
- Focus of the workshop:
 - ❖ Review of the Preliminary List of indicators for Goals 1-16 (disseminated by the UNSD);
 - ❖ Contextual issues for the review–**National Development Plans and the CARICOM Strategic Plan;**
- CARICOM Member States/CCS **participated/contributed to discussions** at the sessions of the **United Nations Statistics Commission (UNSC)** relative to the decisions made on the Global Indicator Framework based on a united CARICOM position. Results of all review of the indicators were submitted to the United Nations Statistics Division.

Highlights of Activities Pre 2017 - 2030 Agenda Process

- The CCS convened an **e-meeting in January 2016** to refine the recommendations by Member States on the list of SDG indicators (August 11, 2016 list). A **second e-meeting** was also convened in **February 2016** which served to complete the work of the January e-meeting;
- A **second face-to-face** workshop was convened in **December 2016 with Member States/Associate Members** which focused on identification of a draft core set of indicators (SCCS Recommendation) for the Region as recommended by the SCCS-collaboration- **CARICOM, UN-SIDS and ECLAC** There were a number of other regional and international organisations present including FAO, the Caribbean Development Bank, UNWOMEN;
- A **draft core set of indicators** comprising approximately **140 indicators** were identified at the December 2016 workshop based on Goals 1-17, inclusive of all 169 targets.

Highlights of Activities Pre 2017- 2030 Agenda Process

Excerpts from the SCCS Statement on the core set of SDGs which was read into the records of the United Nations Statistical Commission -46th Session, 2015:

- At its 39th SCCS, the Statement urging the international statistical community to push for a **dual set of indicators** including a core set for countries such as CARICOM SIDS;
- It noted that the current set of MDGs (that comprised 8 Goals, 21 Targets and 60 Indicators) countries never achieved full coverage in the CARICOM Region, and therefore the situation with the proposed framework would most likely result in even lower coverage for CARICOM countries;
- It recognised that for most countries of CARICOM there are **generally inadequately resourced and overstretched national statistical systems** that would be further impacted by the need for a vast range and quality of data and statistics to monitor the UN Post 2015 Agenda;
- Therefore the **Core set of indicators was suggested as a starting point and was also to include the Caribbean Specific MDGs**, some of which have been incorporated in the consideration of the SDGs, such as:
 - Disaggregation of the Indicators by sex;
 - The indicators on non-communicable diseases; and
 - Early Childhood Development.



Highlights of Activities Pre 2017- 2030 Agenda Process

End Extreme Poverty in all its form everywhere

Global

CARICOM MS

Target 1.2: By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions

Proportion of population living below the poverty line, disaggregated by sex and age group

Proportion of population living below the poverty line, disaggregated by sex and age group; geographic area, special groups e.g. persons with disabilities, indigenous people

Target 1.4: By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal access to basic services, ownership, and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services including microfinance

Share of women among agricultural land owners by age and location (urban/rural) (one of 2 indicators)

Proportion of adult population, in particular the poor and vulnerable, with tenure that is legally recognized and documented as secure, by sex and age group;

Target 1.5: By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters

Number of deaths, missing people, injured, relocated or evacuated due to disasters per 100,000 people

Proportion of population at risk likely to be affected by hazardous events by sex {at risk-poor, persons living in hazard-prone areas]
Proportion of dwellings, health. education facilities, likely to be affected by hazardous events



Highlights of Activities Pre 2017- 2030 Agenda Process

Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Global	CARICOM MS
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<p>Target 2.2: By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including, achieving by 2025 the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs <u>of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons</u></p>	
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<p>Prevalence of stunting (height for age less than 2 SD from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards) among under 5 children</p>	<p>Same as global</p> <p><u>Additional Indicators recommended:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Prevalence of overweight children under 5 years of age; -Prevalence of underweight, pregnant women and lactating women -Indicators to reflect issues pertaining to adolescents and elderly with respect to food security
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Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Target:3 1: By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births

40th Meeting of the SCCS: (2015):

- **Recommended** that the development of indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) be grounded to *National Development* Plans of countries;
- **Also Recommended** that a **Technical Working Group**, TWG, be formed to support the SDGs comprising representatives who attended the first Post 2015 Regional Training Workshop on SDGs Indicators in May 2015;
- **Endorsed** the need for **reconciliation of the SDG indicators with those required for the SAMOA Pathway**, the need for a **baseline study to identify sources of data and to obtain baseline values for the indicators** and the final determination of a minimum set of indicators to be produced initially;

'We reaffirm that small island developing States remain a special case for sustainable development in view of their unique and particular vulnerabilities and that they remain constrained in meeting their goals in all three dimensions of sustainable development.' (excerpt from Samoa Pathway Outcome document 2014, Apia Samoa)

40th Meeting of the SCCS: (2015) (continued):

- **Also endorsed** the recommendation by the CARICOM Secretariat to obtain information on capacity constraints in the context of the production of Indicators for the 2030 Agenda;
- **Further noted** UNECLAC's offer to support the baseline study that was proposed by the CARICOM Secretariat;
- **Recommended** that work commence on the advancement of the core set of SDG indicators as it related to the statement on this issue endorsed by the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the SCCS;
- **Also recommended** the establishment of the corresponding baseline values;
- **Reiterated** that the CORE set of Indicators include the Caribbean Specific Millennium Development Goals (CSMDGs);

41 SCCS (2016):

Recommended the identification of **capacity building needs** relative to the core list of indicators to be compiled and that countries make use of the **Action Plan for Statistics**, in this regard, that was endorsed by the 39th meeting of Heads of Government in 2016



Highlights of Activities 2017+- 2030 Agenda Process

- **The Technical Working Group (TWG)**, was formed to support the technical work required on the identification of the core SDGs as recommended by the SCCS;
- The first **TWG meeting was held in Roseau, Dominica in April 2017** where 109 indicators (excluding 5 repeat indicators) were identified as the immediate core to be produced as a Phase I. The intention is to gradually graduate to the remaining indicators;
- Consideration was given to the Draft Core set that were identified at the Inter-Agency Collaborative Meeting plus other indicators and were confined to Tier 1 and Tier 2 Indicators
- The Terms of Reference of the TWG were developed.

- **Criteria for selection of Core SDG indicators:**
- The indicators should be linked *to the national and regional planning programmes and priorities for development* and provide a robust measure of progress as it relates to development of CARICOM countries;
- The ability of the indicator to measure the SDGs in the context of the diverse population groups in CARICOM [leaving no one behind];
- The core indicators must reflect the unique vulnerabilities of CARICOM SIDS –Samoa;
- They must allow for comparability at the National, Regional and International level.

Highlights of Activities 2017+

- Presentation to the 34th Meeting of the CARICOM Council for Human and Social Development (2018):
- The core SDG Indicators were presented to the Council for Human and Social Development – Ministerial Level Body.
- There were recommendations during this meeting on **16 indicators** to be added to the 109 unique core identified and endorsed by the SCCS;
- The Meeting endorsed the view that the indicators should be grounded in the national development priorities of countries as included in the criteria for selection of the TWG.
- The adjusted list of **125 indicators** were endorsed included the 16 recommended during the meeting;



Highlights of Activities 2017+

- Presentation to the 34th Meeting of the CARICOM Council for Human and Social Development (2018) (continued):
- Assessment of the availability in countries of the initial set of 109 indicators was undertaken and the results are to be disseminated in October 2018;
- The TWG held a second Meeting in June 2018 to produce its work plan including setting dates for the initial production of the core indicators (all 125);
- **COUNTRY-LEVEL:**
- Work is in progress at country level to varying degrees and they regularly report to the TWG and to the SCCS/AGS on progress and at two countries have participated in the Voluntary National Reviews (VRNs) of the High Level Political Forum one in 2017 and the other this year, 2028.

REGIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF STATISTICS:

- The CARICOM Region has developed an overarching **Regional Strategy for the Development of Statistics (RSDS)** with the help of the organisation PARIS21
- The CARICOM RSDS has been endorsed by the **38th Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)** that was held In Jamaica in July 2018;
- A **Strategic Driver of the RSDS** is the **2030 Agenda** which must be mainstreamed across the entire National Statistical System;
- Already there is work in progress/undertaken in the past supported by a number of International Development Partners including:
 - the European Union (European Development Fund), Eurostat (Merchandise Trade/National Accounts), the Inter-American Development Bank (Regional Public Goods), Canada (Project for the Advancement of Statistics in the Caribbean), Italy, PARIS21, UNSD, UNICEF, UNFPA, ILO, UNWOMEN of course UNECLAC, other UN agencies; the Caribbean Development Bank.

RSDS- 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- **Exploit** the opportunities of the 2030 Agenda for the modernisation and transformation of the CARICOM Statistical System (CSS);
- **Mainstream** the 2030 Agenda framework across the entire CSS to make available the production of indicators to monitor all 17 Goals and 169 targets and the corresponding monitoring of the SAMOA Pathway;
- Specifically, with reference to the 2030 Agenda:
 - **Mainstream** statistics on environmental issues and concerns inclusive of Climate Change, Disasters/Natural Disasters and on Green Economies, and
 - **Promote** statistics to inform Crime Prevention strategies and Citizen Security across the CSS inclusive of trafficking of humans, drugs trafficking, Gender-Based and Gang-related Violence;

RSDS- 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (continued)

- **Build and strengthen** strategic partnerships, to optimise the use of scarce resources and to achieve efficiency gains in facilitating the production of the indicator framework that can guide, monitor and underscore the achievements of the 2030 Agenda framework/SAMOA Pathway;
- **Undertake** a baseline assessment in the context of the 2030 Agenda of the capacity of countries to produce the 230+ indicators, assessing at the same time the institutional, organisational and technical readiness of the CSS to move to the next level of maturity in building the relevant data ecosystem.
- **ROLE OF THE CENSUS:**
- The Census in CARICOM is traditionally supported by a regionally-coordinated approach and it is recognized as a critical source of information for the SDGs including benchmarking and is also a vital activity under the RSDS.



Highlights of Activities 2017+: CARICOM RSDS

Overarching theme

Building Resilience of the Caribbean Community

Ultimate Outcome

AN EFFICIENT CARICOM STATISTICAL SYSTEM (CSS), THAT IS RESPONSIVE TO THE NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT AGENDA, ENABLING A RESILIENT COMMUNITY WITH SUSTAINED ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Vision

A CARICOM STATISTICAL SYSTEM (CSS) THAT IS RECOGNISED FOR PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE AND IS THE PREMIER SOURCE OF HIGH-QUALITY, HARMONISED STATISTICS ON THE COMMUNITY.

Mission

TO PROVIDE CARICOM AND THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY WITH HIGH QUALITY, HARMONIZED STATISTICS FOR EVIDENCE-BASED DECISION-MAKING, RESEARCH, THE EMPOWERMENT OF THE PEOPLE AND FOR THE ACHIEVEMENT OF SUSTAINED ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT



Five Strategic Priorities

**STANDARDS AND HARMONISATION; GOVERNANCE; INTEGRATED STATISTICAL SYSTEMS;
INNOVATION; AND ADVOCACY AND COMMUNICATION**

Drivers/Enablers

**IT INFRASTRUCTURE, 2030 AGENDA, SUSTAINABLE CAPACITY BUILDING, AND
GENDER MAINSTREAMING**

Core Values

**PROFESSIONAL INDEPENDENCE, TRANSPARENCY, INTEGRITY, CONFIDENTIALITY,
QUALITY, ACCESSIBILITY AND USER ORIENTATION/CUSTOMER FOCUS**

Some Conclusions

- The 2030 Agenda will heavily impact the work of the National Statistical Systems for the next 10+ years and **the capacity-building needs must be addressed utilising a form that is sustainable**;
- The CARICOM Region has developed an overarching Regional Strategy for the Development of Statistics (RSDS) with the help of the organisation PARIS 21
- The CARICOM RSDS has received high political support for the RSDS and among the next steps is a High Level Forum focusing on Resource Mobilisation, an Implementation Plan which is to be costed and also adapted at the country level and a Communication Plan for the RSDS that is being supported by Canada and PARIS21;
- A Strategic Driver of the RSDS is the 2030 Agenda which must be mainstreamed across the entire CARICOM Statistical System and the 2020 Round of Census would be the only Census to be conducted during the 2030 Agenda period;
- The identification of the core SDG Indicators is to focus on the national development priorities of countries and to grapple with the filling the data gaps on this subset of SDGs to monitor the **achievement of development results** by countries.



THE END