

34th Meeting of the Standing Committee of CARICOM Statisticians
26-30 October 2009, St. Lucia
Report from Statistics Division, Antigua and Barbuda

Area of Statistics	Data Production / Data Collection	Data Dissemination	Data Gaps	Best Practices / Challenges	Resources Required	Use of Technology
Consumer Price Index	2001 Base year series are being produced monthly	Monthly CPI and Inflation rate on monthly bulletin	CPI for property insurance, health insurance, rent	<p><u>Best Practices</u> Currently receiving technical assistance from CARTAC to revise the basket based on 2006 HBS and COICOP levels 5,6 and 7</p> <p><u>Challenges</u> Knowledge transfer in a situation where technical workforce is small</p>	Competence for CPI / Inflation analysis	<p>The IMF has recommended PIPS for processing</p> <p>AREMOS¹: for storing final compiled figures to central data repository</p>
Merchandise External Trade	<p>Still using HS96 SITC Rev 3</p> <p>Imports and Exports by Country of Origin</p> <p>Imports and Exports by SITC</p>	<p>Data available up to July 2008.</p> <p>Post July 2008: data are not complete as the Customs department converted to CASE software to process the warrants</p>	<p>1991 – 1998 2002 – 2004</p> <p>Data for these periods are being re-entered as they were lost on a server that crashed.</p> <p>Trade Indices</p>	<p><u>Best Practices</u> Meeting and collaborating with key government agencies through a <i>Stakeholders Committee</i> (e.g Customs, Min. Of Trade, Inland Revenue, Min. of Finance)</p>	Competence for trade analysis	<p>EUROTRACE for DOS</p> <p>AREMOS¹: for storing final compiled figures to central data repository</p>

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				Using International Guidelines and Standards <u>Challenges</u> Integrating CASE data with EUROTRACE		
National Accounts	GDP by economic activity	Annually and led by the ECCB	Tourism Satellite Accounts Supply and Use Tables (SUTs)	<u>Best Practices</u> Meeting with businesses to advocate the importance of official statistics and the role and responsibilities of the private sector Using International Guidelines and Standards <u>Challenges</u> Improving the response rate in a very politically, economically and	Competences for national accounts compilation (only 0.5 Statistician currently available)	Microsoft WORD for questionnaires Microsoft EXCEL for data entry and processing. AREMOS ¹ : for storing final compiled figures to central data repository

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				socially charged environment		
Balance of Payments		Annually and led by the ECCB	Trade in Services International Investment Position (IIP)	<u>Best practices</u> Meeting with businesses to advocate the importance of official statistics and the role and responsibilities of the private sector <u>Challenges</u> Expanding the scope to close data gaps given the limited competences	Competences for BOP compilation (only 0.5 Statistician currently available)	CEBOPS for processing (ECCB currently outsourcing updating) AREMOS ¹ : for storing final compiled figures to central data repository
Labour Statistics	Labour force survey has never been conducted				Competences for the development of labour and employment statistics	CSPro Teleform DEVInfo
	<u>Best practices</u> Meeting and collaborating with key government agencies through a <i>Stakeholders Committee</i> <u>Challenges</u> Conducting the first ever labour force survey in early 2010 without adequate technical staff					

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Tourism Statistics	Visitor Satisfaction and Expenditure Survey	As requested by users	Room stock Occupancy rates Expenditure by tourists Value of activity of tourism-related businesses	<u>Best practices</u> Meeting and collaborating with key government agencies through a <i>Stakeholders Committee</i> <u>Challenges</u>		Microsoft EXCEL AREMOS ¹ : for storing final compiled figures to central data repository
Population and Housing Census	Cabinet has not yet approved Census budget <u>Best practices</u> Budget plan considered lessons learnt in 1990 and 2001 Census Used CARICOM Census planning documents <u>Challenges</u> Getting a high response rate at a time of immigration reform Keeping May 2011 as Census day given that pre-census activities have not yet commenced				Cartography Technical Assistance PDA use training	CSPro Teleform DEVInfo

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Social and Demographic Statistics		Crime Agriculture Tourism Education		<u>Best practices</u> Meeting and collaborating with key government agencies through a <i>Stakeholders Committee</i> (e.g. Min. of Education, Crime, Tourism, Agriculture, Social Transformation) <u>Challenges</u>	Staff with sampling, survey planning, questionnaire design skills	DEVInfo Microsoft EXCEL AREMOS ¹ : for storing final compiled figures to central data repository
Other Data sets	None	None	Several			Not Applicable
Environment Indicators for MDGs						
Establishment Register				<u>Best practices:</u> Meeting and collaborating with key government agencies through a <i>Stakeholders Committee</i> (e.g. Registrar of		

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				Businesses, Social Security, Chamber of Commerce) Guided by SNA 93 <u>Challenges:</u> Death and birth of establishments		

¹ AREMOS: Automated Retrieval and Econometric Modeling Statistics