

THIRTY-SEVENTH MEETING OF
THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF
CARIBBEAN STATISTICIANS (SCCS)

RESTRICTED

SCCS/2012/37/6

St. George's, Grenada

29-31 October 2012

23 October 2012

**STATUS REPORT ON STATISTICS ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION
TECHNOLOGIES AND PROGRAMME OF WORK – 2012/2013**

1. INTRODUCTION

This paper provides an overview of the ongoing development work in the area of statistics on Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) including efforts to compile and disseminate available ICT statistics and indicators by the Regional Statistics Programme and the development of the Caribbean Specific Information and Communication Technologies Indicators (CSICT).

2. OVERVIEW OF THE CARICOM WORKSHOP ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF CARIBBEAN SPECIFIC INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES STATISTICS AND INDICATORS

Member States would recall that one of the activities proposed by the Secretariat, in its report at the Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians (SCCS) was a workshop focusing on the developmental work on the measurement of ICT and review of the draft Caribbean Specific ICT (CSICT) Statistics and Indicators; and the development of a draft work plan for the compilation of the CSICT Statistics and Indicators.

The Meeting provided a background to the development of statistics on Information and Communication Technologies (ICT); reviewed the ICT statistics and indicators available in the Member States and discussed ICT in terms of its economic contribution. Presentations were also made on the justification of ICT relative to nine themes namely: Agriculture-Food and Nutrition Security, Environment, Governance, Health, Information Literacy, Policy and Regulatory Framework, Poverty Alleviation, Security, Social Inclusion. These themes were with regard to the Caribbean Specific ICT indicators.

The main outputs of this workshop were:

- (i) The refinement of the core list of CSICT Indicators presented at the workshop which was arrived at based on recommendations of the participants during the group sessions;
- (ii) The development of a Three-Year Implementation Plan for the compilation of the new CSICT Statistics and Indicators and corresponding metadata at the national level.

3. COMPILATION AND DISSEMINATION OF ICT STATISTICS AND INDICATORS

ICT Publication

During 2012, the Regional Statistics Sub-Programme continued its compilation of statistics on ICT for its first publication to be disseminated in November 2012. Data were compiled from eighteen (18) countries for the period 2000-2011 and was sourced mainly from the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) ICT Indicator database, the 2000 and 2010 Round of Censuses, National Statistical Offices and data presented at the ICT workshop in 2011. An initial attempt was made in the publication to measure the economic contribution of ICT with respect to Trade in ICT Goods, Trade in ICT Services to GDP.

Country profiles on selected ICT data were also prepared and disseminated and formed part of a Statistical Profile that was prepared for Caribbean Statistics Day. An ICT database was also created and selected data have also been disseminated on the Statistics website for the period 2000-2011.

4. DEVELOPMENT OF FRAMEWORK FOR THE CARIBBEAN SPECIFIC ICT INDICATORS

In an effort to consolidate the outputs and achievements of the participants in the last workshop, the Secretariat compiled the work plans of the three groups into a combined implementation plan. A template was created to review the proposed list of CSICT Indicators and an ICT discussion forum was launched to facilitate the continued review and refinement of these indicators and the compiling of a core list of priority indicators from amongst the indicators that have been reviewed.

An invitation to join the forum was sent to all participants along with the relevant documentation. To date, twenty-five (25) persons are registered on the forum and every effort is being made to ensure the continued participation in the refinement and prioritization process by exploiting the Forum. The discussion on the forum will deliberate on these indicators shortly.

ACTION REQUIRED

The **Meeting** is **invited** to:

- (i) **urge** countries to make use of the ICT discussion forum to:
 - (a) begin the process of prioritization of the CSICT indicators;
 - (b) continue the refinement to the list of CSICT indicators;
 - (c) To make further recommendations to the implementation plan;
 - (d) to provide feedback on efforts at the country level to undertake activities proposed in the implementation plan;

- (ii) **note** the developmental work undertaken for the Caribbean Specific ICT Indicators;
- (iii) **also note** the efforts to publish and disseminate ICT statistics and indicators;
- (iv) **also request** the cooperation of countries in the submission of ICT data as it becomes available from the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Census.
