

National Advocacy Workshop on the Measurement of
the Informal Sector and Informal Employment
3 December 2007
Castries, Saint Lucia

LIMITED
LC/CAR/L.158
28 December 2007
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

EVALUATION REPORT
**National Advocacy Workshop on the Measurement of the Informal Sector
and Informal Employment**

This document has been reproduced without formal editing.

Table of contents

Introduction.....	1
I. Evaluation Method	1
II. Summary	1
A. Pre-Workshop Evaluation.....	2
B. Workshop evaluation	2
Annex 1: Evaluation Form.....	3
Annex 2: Pre-workshop assessment.....	6

INTRODUCTION

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean conducted a one-day National Advocacy Workshop on the Informal Sector and Informal Employment, on 3 December 2007 in Castries, Saint Lucia. This workshop was the first component of the interregional project on the Measurement of the Informal Sector and Informal Employment and was aimed at raising awareness among statistical offices and other government agencies on the importance of collecting and disseminating data on the informal sector and informal economy and incorporating it into employment and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) estimates.

This report presents an evaluation of some of the key aspects of the workshop as viewed by the participants.

I. EVALUATION METHOD

A workshop evaluation form (attached at Annex 1) was included in the registration kit for each participant. One of the key indicators for assessing the relevance of the workshop was an increase in the participants' understanding and knowledge of the informal sector and informal employment. The evaluation form, which was designed to capture this, comprised two components: a pre-workshop evaluation and a post-workshop evaluation.

The first section of the evaluation form which was related to the "pre-workshop assessment" sought to assess the participants' prior knowledge of the informal sector and informal employment and their expectations of the workshop. The "workshop assessment" assessed participants' views of various aspects of the workshop and sought their comments on its usefulness and areas for improvement. The questions contained in both sections took the form of open-ended questions or required participants to rate responses on a 3 or 4 point scale.

Fourteen of the 24 participants completed the evaluation forms. This represented a return rate of 58.3 per cent. For the purposes of this review, it is assumed that the views expressed by those respondents are representative of all the workshop participants.

II. SUMMARY

A. Pre-Workshop Evaluation

Of the 14 respondents, 78.6 per cent indicated that they were "somewhat" or "fully" aware of the objectives and content of the workshop prior to their attendance. In addition, 13 respondents indicated that they were confident that the workshop would be beneficial to their work.

Thirteen of the 14 participants identified the "subject of the workshop from a professional viewpoint" as the most significant factor which influenced their participation.

The second factor identified by 85.7 per cent of the participants was the “potential impact of the topic on their job”. The least significant factor was duration of the workshop.

In the final question in this section, participants were required to list their expectations of the workshop. With no exception, participants indicated their desire to increase their knowledge of the informal sector or acquire a better understanding of the project and its activities either in terms of its relevance to Saint Lucia or their jobs. Comments related to this question as articulated by the participants are included in Annex II.

B. Workshop evaluation

The content and organization of the workshop was very highly rated by most of the participants, with 93 per cent of the respondents selecting “excellent” or “good” ratings for the overall quality of the workshop. In addition, more than 85 per cent of the respondents ranked the individual elements related to workshop organization and content as “excellent” or “good”.

In terms of the relevance of the workshop/material, 71 per cent of the respondents strongly agreed that the workshop had increased their knowledge and skills of the informal sector and that the material was of practical value to their job. Evidence of those sentiments was captured in the participants’ views on the usefulness of the workshop:

“this formed a good foundation for understanding the purpose of collecting data on the informal sector”

“gained knowledge about the informal sector and informal employment and learnt about the project. A lot of useful information as a statistician in definitions, methodologies etc”.

Participants’ responses to the question on the least useful aspect of the workshop reaffirmed their positive appraisal of the workshop, with the exception of one respondent who indicated that “the details of the questionnaire should have been deleted”. All other respondents indicated that the content and all items on the programme were useful.

Respondents of the questionnaire provided some suggestions for improving the workshop. Those included decreasing the time allotted for the workshop, insisting on a punctual start, providing more opportunities for interaction/small group discussions and providing participants with all the slides for the PowerPoint presentations at the start of the workshop.

Based on the foregoing summary, we can conclude that the one-day Workshop on the Informal Sector and Informal Employment was a resounding success and a worthwhile experience for all the participants. ECLAC extends its thanks to staff of the Central Statistical Office, the workshop facilitators and all participants who contributed to this exceptional outcome.

Annex I

Evaluation Form

**NATIONAL ADVOCACY WORKSHOP ON MEASUREMENT OF THE
INFORMAL SECTOR AND INFORMAL EMPLOYMENT**

Castries, Saint Lucia, 3 December 2007

Dear Participant,

Thank you for participating in our one-day workshop on the Informal Sector and Informal Employment. In an effort to assess the effectiveness and relevance of this workshop to you, we would like you to complete the attached pre- and post-evaluation form.

Your response to the questionnaire will be invaluable in providing feedback on the overall workshop, identifying areas of weakness and help improve the organization of future workshops. **All information provided to us will be treated in the strictest confidence.**

Thank you for your cooperation in this exercise.

Pre-Workshop Assessment

1. Were you fully aware of the objectives and content of the workshop prior to your attendance?

Yes No Somewhat

2. Having understood the purpose of the workshop at any point, were you confident that the experience of the workshop would be beneficial to your work in the office?

Yes No Somewhat

3. Have you had any formal training on the informal sector and informal employment? If yes, please outline.

4. What role did each of the following have in your decision to participate in this workshop?

	Strong reason for participating	Moderate reason for participating	Not applicable
Subject of the workshop from a professional viewpoint	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Subject of the workshop from a personal viewpoint	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Potential impact of the topic on your job	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duration of the workshop	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. What do you expect most from this workshop?

The Workshop Assessment

1. How would you rate the following aspects of this workshop (circle your responses)

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Content and organization				
Overall quality of the workshop	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Workshop organization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Format of the workshop	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Content and quality of the presentations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overall helpfulness of the workshop	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Relevance of workshop / material				
The workshop increased your knowledge and skills on the informal sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The information presented will be of practical value to your job	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. What did you find most useful about this workshop and why?

3. What did you find least useful and why?

4. How could this workshop be improved?

5. Any other comments or suggestions?

Annex II**Pre-workshop assessment****1.**

	Yes	No	Somewhat	Total
Were you fully aware of the objectives and content of the workshop prior to your attendance?	4	3	7	14
Having understood the purpose of the workshop at any point, were you confident that the experience of the workshop would be beneficial to your work in the office?	13		1	14
Have you had any formal training on the informal sector and informal employment?				

2. What role did each of the following have in your decision to participate in the workshop?

	Strong reason for participating	Moderate reason for participating	Not applicable
Subject of the workshop from a professional viewpoint	13		
Subject of the workshop from a personal viewpoint	7	5	1
Potential impact of the topic on your job	12	2	
Duration of the workshop	5	1	5

3. What are do you expect most from this workshop?

- To better understand the questionnaire and purpose of data collection
- Concrete action taken in terms of the informal sector in St. Lucia is concerned – presently too elusive to me
- To be more educated about the informal sector
- Impact of data collection on the informal sector which will be conducted is very useful to my job
- Obtain knowledge on this project and see whether it has implications for policy in my ministry
- Develop a workable solution to provide social protection for is group
- To be inform on the research development in the informal sector

- To be able to identify persons engaged in the informal activities and the possibility of capturing the activities that they are engaged in the HUEM
- To better understand the criteria of the informal and informal employment and the importance of capturing such information
- Increased knowledge on the informal sector and their participation role in the economy
- To format that survey will take

THE WORKSHOP ASSESSMENT

1. How would you rate the following aspects of this workshop?

Content and Organization	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Overall quality of the workshop	8	4	1	0
Workshop Organization	9	4	1	0
Format of the workshop	4	6	1	0
Content and quality of the presentations	6	6	1	0
Overall helpfulness of the workshop	6	6	1	0
Relevance of workshop/ material	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The workshop increased your knowledge and skills of the informal sector	10	3	0	0
The information presented will be of practical value of your job	10	2	0	0

2. What did you find most useful about this workshop and why?

- Presentations and discussions on data collection
- Definitions clarified methodology and questionnaire discussed
- Information about the informal sector and informal employment
- The content of the programme was very inspirational
- Data collection strategies
- Gained knowledge about the informal sector and informal employment and learnt about the project. A lot of useful information as a statistician in definitions, methodologies etc.
- The idea of consultation and sensitizing stakeholders is very useful for the process of data collection. Stakeholders input in questionnaire design is crucial to achieving survey objectives.
- Objective of the project to understand the informal sector
- 1-2 methodology of data collection the data can then be used to determine the GDP contribution of the informal sector
- There was a lot of information on the informal sector and informal employment. This formed a good foundation for understanding the purpose of collecting data on the informal sector

- Concepts and definitions of the informal sector and informal employment
- Sebastien's presentation in terms of the phase 2 questionnaire

3. What did you find least useful and why?

- Part of the details on the questionnaire that could have been deleted/ omitted
- All the areas were very useful
- Not sure of relevance to my job in my ministry (Education) in terms of implementation but results may prove useful
- Content of the workshop was good – everything which came out of it was important
- All the items on the programme were useful

4. How could this workshop be improved?

- Shorten on length of time
- The material was very valuable; the consultant went by quickly with some of the material
- Start on time and insist on being punctual on resumption (if not start with the number present)
- More practical opportunities for data collection techniques
- Workshop should have been more interactive for example: persons could have formed small groups to discuss the questionnaire and then there would be a discussion on the ideas of each group
- Participants should have included persons on the informal sector
- The power point presentation being given at the start of the presentation to make it easier to note comments

5. Other comments or suggestions:

- The screening questionnaire should be by itself. The same sample of the LFS can be used without inserting the questions in the LFS questionnaire.
- I trust we will receive handouts by e-mail as promised.
- More of such workshops – informal sector – critical – potentially this is an explosive sector
- Questionnaire should have been circulated prior to our meeting today – more impact if this was done. Questionnaire should be revised or made shorter – will be intimidating to persons in non formal sector/ compensation may have to be considered for those persons during administration of questionnaire.
- Workshop was very informative and well executed
- I am looking forward to the use of data from this survey in the compilation of GDP estimates.

Annex III**List of Participants**

Sherma Beroo-Joseph, Statistician, Central Statistics Office, Chreiki Building, Micoud Street, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: shermab@stats.gov.lc

Rhikkie Alexander, Projects Officer, Ministry of Labour, Information and Broadcasting, Green Building, Barnard Hill, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: naturesconsultancy@hotmail.com

Alton Auguste, Empowerment Consultants, Trouya Road, Gros Islet, Saint Lucia. E-mail: alton.auguste@gmail.com

Mervin Bertin, Research Officer, National Workers Union, Bourbon Street, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: Natwork3@hotmail.com

Albert Cenac, Statistics and Research Manager, National Insurance Corporation, Francis Compton Building, Waterfront, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: Albert_Cenac@yahoo.com

Myrtene Cenac, Statistician, Corporate Planning Unit, Ministry of Education and Culture, Sir Francis Compton Building, Waterfront, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: mcenac20b@hotmail.com

Claudius Peto Francis, Managing Director, Empowerment Consultants Ltd., Trouya Road, Gros Islet, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: empowerc@gmail.com

Joseph Grantley Charlemagne, Assistant Director – Statistics, Central Statistics Office, Chreiki Building, Micoud Street, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: grantley@stats.gov.lc

Euphemia Edmund, Statistician, Central Statistics Office, Chreiki Building, Micoud Street, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: euphemiae@gmail.com

Jacinta Francis, Tourism Officer, Ministry of Tourism, Sir Stanlislaus James Building, Waterfront, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: jfrancis@gosl.gov.lc

Richard Harris, Statistician, Central Statistics Office, Chreiki Building, Micoud Street, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: richard@stats.gov.lc

Lisa James, Community Liaison Officer, Basic Needs Trust Fund, Leslie Land Road, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: bntfproj@candw.lc

Marcellus Joseph, General Manager, BELFUND Inc., 31 Leslie Land Road, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: belfund@candw.lc

Martha Joseph, Statistical Clerk, Central Statistics Office, Chreiki Building, Micoud Street, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: togoodtobe71@hotmail.com

Maureen Joseph, Statistician, Central Statistics Office, Chreiki Building, Micoud Street, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: maureenj@stats.gov.lc

Paul Kallicharan, Statistician, National Insurance Corporation, Francis Compton Building, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: pjkalli@yahoo.com

Rufus Leandre, Chief Extension Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Sir Stanislaus James Building, Waterfront, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: Aoe@slumaffe.org

Majella Louis, Statistician III, Central Statistics Office, Chreiki Building, Micoud Street, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: jmlouis@gmail.com

Sebastien Merceron, Statistician, DIAL, Paris, France. E-mail: mercaron@dial.prd.fr

Julia Mitille, Director (Ag.), Small Enterprise and Development Unit, Heraldine Rock Building, Waterfront, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: mitillej@yahoo.com

Ray Narcisse, Labour Officer III, Department of Labour Relations, Ministry of Labour, Broadcasting and Information, Barnard Hill, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: narcisse_ar@yahoo.com

Edwin St. Catherine, Director of Statistics, Central Statistics Office, Chreiki Building, Micoud Street, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: edwins@stats.gov.lc

Merlicia Williams, Statistical Assistant, Central Statistics Office, Micoud Street, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: merliciaw@hotmail.com

Cynthia Spencer, Job Employment Officer (Youth), Department of Labour Relations, Ministry of Labour, Broadcasting and Information, Barnard Hill, Castries, Saint Lucia. E-mail: cindy40slu@yahoo.com

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean, 1 Chancery Lane, Port of Spain, Trinidad. Tel: (868) 623-5595; Fax: (868) 623-8485.

Sylvan Roberts, Statistician. E-mail: sylvan.roberts@eclac.org

Sinovia Moonie, Statistical Assistant. E-mail: sinovia.moonie@eclac.org