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Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean

National training workshop on capacity-building
for the production of reliable disaggregated data
St. John's
18 – 20 October 2011

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**EVALUATION REPORT OF THE
NATIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOP ON CAPACITY-BUILDING
FOR THE PRODUCTION OF RELIABLE DISAGGREGATED DATA**

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A. INTRODUCTION

1. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) was mandated to follow up on the implementation of major United Nations global summits on women and development, particularly the Fourth World Conference on Women, and to support governments in the Caribbean in their efforts to achieve the objectives of the Beijing Platform for Action and the Beijing+5 Political Declaration and Outcome Document, and the Millennium Development Goals. In that context, ECLAC has been providing technical assistance to Caribbean governments in order to mainstream gender in all national policies and programmes, including the development of gender policies. In addition, there were a number of regional agreements, including the Port of Spain Consensus¹, which urged Caribbean governments to apply data on gender as a critical component of policy formulation. It also recommended actions, such as capacity-building through training with key institutions to ensure a comprehensive understanding of gender mainstreaming as a critical element in the achievement of gender equality, equity and social justice.

2. National gender policies were, therefore, being given an increasingly important role in the quest for gender parity in politics and decision-making processes in the Caribbean, since they sought to establish national positions arising from international agreements. They served as a guide for the development of policies across sectors, and projects and programmes based on gender equity. The gender policies identified critical areas for attention and assigned responsibilities for implementation and were being developed through a process of consultation with the national community. In order to develop the national gender policy in Antigua and Barbuda, it was necessary to apply relevant data on gender to facilitate policy formulation. That would, in turn, require cooperation from a number of key government ministries and departments involved not only in the collection of data, but also in social and economic policymaking.

3. However, in spite of various initiatives, Caribbean countries continued to experience difficulties in addressing additional demands of monitoring and measuring progress created by the Millennium Development Goals and other Internationally Agreed Development Goals. Therefore, it was necessary to implement activities to ensure the further building/strengthening of institutional capabilities for generating reliable social, economic and environmental statistics among Caribbean States.

4. It was therefore within that context, and through the project “Strengthening the capacity of National Statistical Offices in the Caribbean Small Island Developing States to fulfill the MDGs and other Internationally Agreed Development Goals (IADGs)”, that ECLAC intended to address the challenge with a view to building and strengthening institutional capabilities for generating and compiling reliable social and economic statistics in the Caribbean subregion. On completion of the project, it was anticipated that Caribbean governments would better able to measure progress towards those goals, report on them and apply evidence-based approaches to national policymaking and planning.

5. The ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, in collaboration with the Government of Antigua and Barbuda through the Ministry of Education, Sports, Youth, and Gender Affairs, convened a national training workshop on capacity-building for the production of reliable disaggregated data and the collection of data in St. John’s, on 18 - 20 October 2011.

¹ The Port-of-Spain Consensus was adopted at the Third Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean/Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (ECLAC/CDCC) Ministerial Conference on Women: Review and Appraisal of the FWCW Platform for Action Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago 5 to 7 October 1999

6. The overall goal of the national workshop was to build the capacity of government officials and other relevant stakeholders to generate reliable statistical data; in addition to improving national level capacity to monitor and report on progress of implementation of Millennium Development Goal 3, the promotion of gender equality through the collection of relevant data. That goal was developed out of the need for “the strengthening of institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women” as one of the 12 critical areas in the Beijing Platform for Action. In adopting the Beijing Platform for Action, Governments agreed to a common development agenda with gender equality and women’s empowerment as underlying principles. Further, the development of national gender policies was identified as a concrete action to strengthen the role of institutional mechanisms in its implementation.

B. SUMMARY OF EVALUATION

7. The summary presented the views expressed by participants through an anonymous evaluation which was administered at the conclusion of the workshop. The evaluation assessed various aspects of the workshop and comprised 14 items which took the form of both open-ended and rating scale questions. A copy of the evaluation questionnaire is annexed to the report.

8. Responses were received from all participants of the workshop, thus the views captured in the summary were fully representative of the group.

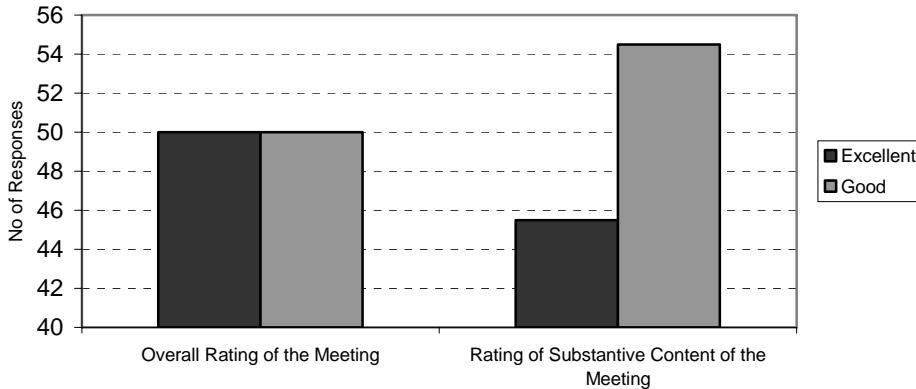
1. Attendance

9. Representatives of the Office of the Ombudsman, the Directorate of Gender Affairs, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Transformation, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labour, Statistics Division and the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda attended the training workshop. There were also two facilitators from the Government of Antigua and Barbuda. The participants comprised 16 (72.7%) women and 6 (27.3%) men from the varying local government offices.

2. Substantive content and usefulness of the workshop

10. This section of the evaluation asked participants to rate their overall opinion on the usefulness of the training workshop. Participants indicated a high level of satisfaction with that aspect of the workshop: with 11 (50.0%) of the 22 participants having rated the overall quality of the training as excellent and 11 (50.0%) rating the training as good. Similar ratings were recorded for the substantive content of the workshop. Participants’ ratings for that item were split between excellent (45.5%) and good (54.5%). Figure 1 displayed the distribution of the responses for those two aspects of the evaluation across the 6-point scale (1= excellent, 2 =good, 3= fair, 4= poor, 5= very poor and 6= not sure/no response), used for those two items.

Figure 1

Participants' feedback on the overall rating and substantive content of the workshop

11. Participants were also required to rate, along a 3-point scale, the extent to which the workshop met their expectations with 1= yes, 2= no, and 3= not sure/no response. With the exception of three participants who did not respond, through the option not sure/no response, all other participants indicated agreement with the statement.

12. Items 4 to 7 of the evaluation assessed the value added by the workshop through the presentations, discussions and recommendations. Participants were required to rate the items related to relevance of the subjects presented along a continuum of 1= very relevant, 2= relevant, 3= somewhat relevant 4= not relevant, 5= not sure/no response.

13. With regard to the relevance of the training as it related to the work being conducted at the participant's institution, participants registered positive levels of relevance. Ratings for that item were at the upper end of the scale: 11 (50.0%) participants indicated that the training was very relevant, 8 (36.4%) rated it as relevant and two (9.1%) participants rated it somewhat relevant, and only 1 (4.5%) participant did not respond.

14. As a follow-up to the closed-ended items, participants were asked to register their views on areas that they "would like to have addressed or analyzed in greater depth", in order to improve the training workshop in terms of the subjects addressed. Of the 15 participants who provided comments for that item, a few participants shared specific concerns about the subject matter discussed at the training workshop:

- "Additional sessions are needed, geared towards training persons in programmes and software for the collection and processing of statistics"
- "Greater discussion on compilation and dissemination of statistics from the perspective of users and producers"

Additional suggestions were made regarding improving subjects that could have been addressed:

- "Women in agriculture"
- "Improving data processing information with regards to the electoral process"
- "Reporting on where the Caribbean stands in relation to target times (dates)"

15. In terms of the usefulness of the analysis and recommendations formulated at the training workshop, participant ratings were consistently positive with 18 (81.8%) participants selecting the combined ratings of very useful or useful.

16. Participants were also asked to register what specific recommendations, aspects or components they would consider incorporating into the work at their institution. Some of the responses were as follows:

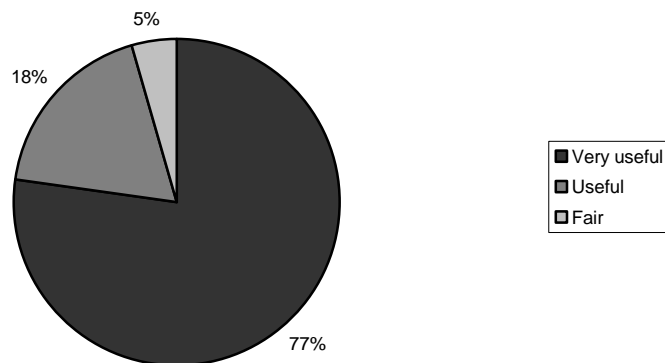
- More intra-sector collaboration
- Proper record keeping (statistics) metadata
- More attention paid to administrative record keeping
- Gender equality
- Expansion in the areas of data collection

17. In terms of the usefulness of the training for strengthening participants' capacities for the production of indicators, participant ratings were consistently positive with 17 (77.3%) participants selecting the combined ratings of very useful or useful.

18. The evaluation also assessed the usefulness of the workshop for engaging in conversations and exchanging experiences with representatives of other countries and institutions. Participants rated that aspect of the workshop along a 6-point scale that ranged from very useful to not sure/no response. The distribution of responses for that item was displayed in figure 2.

Figure 2

Participants' views of the usefulness of the workshop for engaging in conversations and exchanging experiences with representatives of other countries and institutions



3. Organization of the event

19. Responses to the item on rating the organization of the training workshop were positive. A 6-point scale, where 1= Excellent, 2 = Good, 3= Fair, 4= Poor, 5= Very poor and 6= Not sure/no response, was used to evaluate the organization of the workshop in terms of four key components. The four key components used were: quality of the documents and materials provided, duration of the sessions and time for debate, quality of the facilities (room, sound, catering), and quality of support from the organizing division to facilitate logistics. For all components, positive ratings were given. Ratings for the quality of documents and materials provided, and duration of sessions and time for debate, quality of the infrastructure (room, sound, catering) and quality of support from the organizing division to facilitate logistics showed that over

50% of participants deemed those aspects of the training as excellent or good; the remaining ratings were split between fair and a few non-responses. However, in response to the question on if participants had access to material for the training workshop and if they had read the material, 5 (22.7%) of the 22 participants answered that they had had prior access to the material and had, in fact, read the material.

20. Additionally, based on the closed-ended responses regarding the organization of the workshop, the level of support provided by staff proved to be one of the strengths of the workshop. The disaggregation of responses by rating for each aspect of the workshop appears in table 2.

Table 2

Participants' views on the organization of the workshop

	<i>Quality of the documents and materials provided</i>	<i>Duration of the sessions and time for debate</i>	<i>Quality of the facilities (room, sound, catering)</i>	<i>Quality of support from the organizing Division to facilitate logistics</i>
Excellent	8 (36.4%)	9 (40.9%)	4 (18.2%)	9 (40.9%)
Good	10 (45.5%)	11 (50.0%)	11 (50.0%)	11 (50.0%)
Fair	2 (9.1%)	1 (4.5%)	6 (27.3%)	n/a
Poor	1 (4.5%)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Not sure/ no response	1 (4.5%)	1 (4.5%)	1 (4.5%)	2 (9.1%)

21. Based on the ratings provided for the items on the organization of the training workshop, participants were then required to identify what worked well and what areas could be improved. Participants used that opportunity to highlight both the usefulness and inefficiencies of the workshop.

Usefulness:

- “Facilitators knew the subject areas and presented the themes well ”
- “The informative approach and the method used to get all involved in the various discussions”
- “Discussions were very good and enlightening”

Inefficiencies:

- “Difficulty with the readability of presentation slides”
- “Quality of venue”
- “Needed more time allotted to ministries to report on their challenges, with data disaggregation”

22. Some participants, however, once again raised concerns about the amount of time allocated for discussions.

4. Other works by ECLAC

23. This section of the evaluation included two open-ended questions that required participants' comments or suggestions regarding the organizational aspect of the workshop; and any additional technical cooperation activities in the field of statistics that ECLAC should undertake in the future. The majority of participants item identified the following:

Organizational aspects:

- “More representation from relevant institutions”
- “Availability of materials before the workshop”
- “Addressing individual departments (that is government) and seek out first how they store or process data”;

Technical cooperation in the field of statistics:

- “More statistical software and automation”
- “Sharing and collaboration on a national basis is very useful”
- Seminars/workshops for Community Development about community concerns”
- “More information on persons with disabilities and gender based violence”

24. The final section of the evaluation asked participants, through the closed two-point scale of yes or no, whether they would like to receive more information about ECLAC publications in the field of statistics. The responses to this item were also consistently positive with 20 (90.9%) of participants responding yes and only 2 (9.1%) responding no.

5. Conclusion

25. The evaluation provided very favourable feedback on the usefulness of the training workshop as a medium through which experts could discuss issues related to the production of reliable disaggregated data for Antigua and Barbuda. The results also affirmed that the subject content of the workshop met the expectations of the participants. The responses also demonstrated the usefulness of the workshop in increasing conversation and exchange amongst local representatives; and provided a practical forum for discussion among experts, regarding some of the specific issues faced by small island States and possible methods for fostering sustainable development within the subregion.

Annex I**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

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Annex II

NATIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOP ON THE CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE PRODUCTION OF RELIABLE DISAGGREGATED DATA

St. John's Antigua and Barbuda,
18-20 October, 2011

WORKSHOP EVALUATION

In an effort to assess the effectiveness and impact of this training workshop, kindly complete the following evaluation form. Your responses will be invaluable in providing feedback on the overall workshop, identifying areas of weakness and help improve the organization of future workshops.

Sex

- Female
 Male

Country of origin: _____

Institution(s) you represent: _____

Title/Position: _____

Substantive content and usefulness of workshop

1. How would you rate the Training Workshop overall?

1. Excellent III 2. Good III 3. Fair III 4. Poor III 5. Very poor III 6. Not sure/no response III

2. How would you rate the substantive content of the Training Workshop?

1. Excellent III 2. Good III 3. Fair III 4. Poor III 5. Very poor III 6. Not sure/no response III

3. Did the workshop live up to your initial expectations?

1. Yes III 2. No III 3. Not sure / no response III

4. How relevant was the training for the work of your institution?

1. Very Relevant III 2. Relevant III 3. Somewhat relevant III 4. Not relevant III 5. Not sure/no response III

5. How would you improve this Training Workshop in terms of the subjects addressed (for example, issues you would have liked to address or analyze in greater depth or subjects which were not so important)?

Annex III**Responses to close-ended questions**

Table A.1
Sex of Participants

	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Male	16	72.7	72.7	72.7
Female	6	27.3	27.3	100.0
Total	22	100.0	100.0	

Table A.2
Overall Rating of the Workshop

	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Excellent	11	50.0	50.0	50.0
Good	11	50.0	50.0	50.0
Total	22	100.0	100.0	

Table A.3
Rating of substantive content of the Training workshop?

	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Excellent	10	45.5	45.5	45.5
Good	12	54.5	54.5	100
Total	22	100.0	100.0	

Table A.4
Did workshop live up to initial expectations?

	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Yes	19	86.4	86.4	86.4
Not sure/ no response	3	13.6	13.6	100.0
Total	22	100.0	100.0	

Table A. 5
How relevant was the training for the work of your institution?

	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Very useful	11	50.0	50.0	50.0
Relevant	8	36.4	36.4	86.4
Somewhat relevant	2	9.1	9.1	95.5
Not sure/No response	1	4.5	4.5	100.0
Total	22	100.0	100.0	

Table A.6
Usefulness of the analyses and recommendations formulated at the Training workshop

	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Very useful	10	45.5	45.5	45.5
Useful	8	36.4	36.4	81.8
Fair	1	4.5	4.5	86.4
Not sure/no response	3	13.6	13.6	100.0
Total	22	100.0	100.0	

Table A.7
Usefulness of the training in the Production of reliable disaggregated data useful for strengthening your capacity for the production of indicators

	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Very useful	9	40.9	40.9	40.9
Useful	8	36.4	36.4	77.3
Somewhat useful	5	22.7	22.7	100.0
Total	22	100.0	100.0	

Table A.8
Usefulness of the workshop for engaging in conversations and exchanging experiences with representatives of other countries and institutions

	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Very useful	17	77.3	77.3	77.3
Useful	4	18.2	18.2	95.5
Fair	1	4.5	4.5	100.0
Total	22	100.0	100.0	

Table A.9
Did you have access to the materials for the training workshop on the production of reliable disaggregated data before seeing the presentations at this event?

	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Yes	5	22.7	22.7	22.7
No	17	77.3	77.3	100.0
Total	22	100.0	100.0	

Table A.9b
Did you read them?

	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Yes	5	22.7	22.7	22.7
No	17	77.3	77.3	100.0
Total	22	100.0	100.0	

Table A.10
Quality of the documents and materials provided

	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Excellent	8	36.4	36.4	36.4
Good	10	45.5	45.5	81.8
Fair	2	9.1	9.1	90.9
Poor	1	4.5	4.5	95.5
Not sure/no response	1	4.5	4.5	100.0
Total	22	100.0	100.0	

Table A.11
Duration of the sessions and time for debate

	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Excellent	9	40.9	40.9	40.9
Good	11	50.0	50.0	90.9
Fair	1	4.5	4.5	95.5
Not sure/ no response	1	4.5	4.5	100.0
Total	22	100.0	100.0	

Table A.12
Quality of the infrastructure (room, sound, catering)

	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Excellent	4	18.2	18.2	18.2
Good	11	50.0	50.0	68.2
Fair	6	27.3	27.3	95.5
Not sure/no response	1	4.5	4.5	100.0
Total	22	100.0	100.0	

Table A.13
Quality of support from ECLAC/Government of Antigua and Barbuda to facilitate logistics for your participation in the event

	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Excellent	9	40.9	40.9	40.9
Good	11	50.0	50.0	90.9
Not sure/no response	2	9.1	9.1	100.0
Total	22	100.0	100.0	

Table A.15
Interest in receiving information about activities or publications by ECLAC

	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Yes	20	90.9	90.9	90.9
No	2	9.1	9.1	100.0
Total	22	100.0	100.0	