



United Nations

ECLAC

ECLAC SUBREGIONAL HEADQUARTERS FOR THE CARIBBEAN

FOCUS

Newsletter of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)

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ISSUE I / JANUARY - MARCH 2012

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) is one of five regional commissions of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). It was established in 1948 to support Latin American governments in the economic and social development of that region. Subsequently, in 1966, the Commission (ECLA, at that time) established the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean in Port of Spain to serve all countries of the insular Caribbean, as well as Belize, Guyana and Suriname, making it the largest United Nations body in the subregion.

At its sixteenth session in 1975, the Commission agreed to create the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) as a permanent subsidiary body, which would function within the ECLA structure to promote development cooperation among Caribbean countries. Secretariat services to the CDCC would be provided by the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean. Nine years later, the Commission's widened role was officially acknowledged when the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) modified its title to the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Key Areas of Activity

The ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean (ECLAC/CDCC secretariat) functions as a subregional think-tank and facilitates increased contact and cooperation among its membership. Complementing the ECLAC/CDCC work programme framework, are the broader directives issued by the United Nations General Assembly when in session, which constitute the Organization's mandate. At present, the overarching articulation of this mandate is the Millennium Declaration, which outlines the Millennium Development Goals.

Towards meeting these objectives, the Secretariat conducts research; provides technical advice to governments upon request; organizes intergovernmental and expert group meetings; helps to formulate and articulate a regional perspective within global forums; and introduces global concerns at the regional and subregional levels.

Areas of specialisation include trade, statistics, social development, science and technology, and sustainable development; while actual operational activities extend to economic and development planning, demography, economic surveys, assessment of the socio-economic impacts of natural disasters, climate change, data collection and analysis, training, and assistance with the management of national economies.

The ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean also functions as the Secretariat for coordinating the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States. The scope of ECLAC/CDCC activities is documented in the wide range of publications produced by the subregional headquarters in Port of Spain.

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- | | |
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- Cayman Islands
- Montserrat
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- Turks and Caicos Islands
- United States Virgin Islands

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Director's Desk

WELL-DEVELOPED STATISTICAL SYSTEMS: ESSENTIAL AIDS FOR POLICY-MAKING IN THE CARIBBEAN



Reliable statistical data are the essential underpinning of evidence-based policy decision-making. The absence of good statistics will inevitably increase the likelihood of weak governance, flawed business and investment decisions, environmental neglect and more pronounced social inequalities. Building robust statistical infrastructure at the national level is an integral element of strategic development planning and management. In this issue of FOCUS, the importance of robust statistical systems to ensure the availability of reliable and accurate data is explored.

The ongoing challenges to sustainable statistical capacity are legion. In economic statistics, there is increasing demand for data of broader scope, more robust and timely. Users now demand quarterly estimates of GDP and unemployment, monthly Consumer Price Indices and Tourism Indicators. In the realm of social and environmental statistics, our subregion continues to lag in the compilation of key indicators, including those crucial in assessing progress towards to MDGs.

Newly important areas present unique data demands such as climate change indicators; statistics on ICT; on agriculture and food production. Another fundamental challenge is the need for better management and use of administrative records. Well-developed, administrative registries can serve as efficient, cost-effective sources of official data. Censuses and surveys providing key statistics and indicators.

Of course, censuses and surveys remain two major sources of statistics which present ongoing challenges. In some countries the results of Population and Housing censuses conducted nearly two years ago are still unavailable. There are also daunting challenges to staying abreast of international standards and guidelines.

We have only recently completed a series of technical workshops in the region intended to support Member States in



Diane Alexander / ECLAC

Ms. Diane Quarless, Director, ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean

their effort to achieve compliance in the latest round of the International Comparison Programme (ICP).

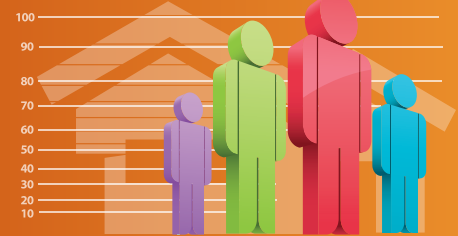
Indeed, this accomplishment represents an important stride recently made towards strengthening statistical capacity in the region. Nevertheless, the fact that the Caribbean is still described as a 'data poor' region is evidence enough that much remains to be done, if we are to build statistical capacities that are sustainable. Limited financial resources, inadequate regulation and legislation, lack of qualified human resources, high turnover of staff and lagging information technology infrastructures are often identified as challenges to the maintenance of sustained statistical capacity in the Caribbean.

There is also need to shape a more effective collaboration among all stakeholders and to define a progressive and proactive approach to building a more resilient statistical infrastructure at both national and regional levels. Even more importantly, we need to develop a 'culture of statistics' within the subregion; one that re-values the role of statistics in the development process; one that gives it the recognition and its rightful position within policy-making circles. Only then will we be able to attract and retain dedicated human resources in this important field. We need to keep our statisticians motivated and committed. We must make this profession a vocation, not just a job. We need to educate all stakeholders, including the population at large on the importance of statistics; we need to raise the awareness and appreciation of decision-makers at the national level regarding the central role played by statistics in developing objective, evidence-based policies to promote sustainable development in the subregion. This is fundamental to ensuring its sustainability.

The ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, in partnership with CARICOM and other international development institutions and United Nations Agencies, continues to work toward strengthening statistical capacity in the subregion. Support is offered through training on statistical software packages, the convening of workshops on technical areas in the field of statistics, the provision of guidance and advice on evidence-based policy-making,

(continued on page 11) ►

THE POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS: A VALUABLE SOURCE OF INFORMATION



I. INTRODUCTION

Every ten years, the United Nations actively promotes the conduct of Population and Housing Censuses (PHCs) in all Member States. The results of a census are invaluable and this is why this exercise is arguably the most important data gathering exercise for most countries. For developing countries such as ours in the Caribbean, a census may be the main source of statistical data for planning purposes for an entire decade. This is why all countries of the Caribbean subregion have participated in every census round dating back to the late 1800s.

II. Content of census questionnaire

Modern PHCs include many questions from which useful results can be generated that guide planning and other decisions in all sectors of development. In addition to questions on the sex, age and geographic location of individuals, censuses now ask for a wider variety of information, such as the income, labour force, education and health status of the population. Recent censuses have also included questions on the environment as well as the access to and use of information and communications technology. This broad cross section of questions can yield rich databases on economic, social, environmental and demographic phenomena which are indispensable for evidence based policy decisions.

III. Uses of census results

(i) Use of results for economic decisions

The uses of the results of a PHC are widespread and comprehensive. They serve to guide interventions to promote development in all sectors. In the economic sphere, some of the uses of a census include information which can guide business decisions. For example, the success of a business depends critically on the availability of primary statistics on population size and its geographic distribution, individual and household income levels and income distribution, education and training levels, labour force size and structure, as well as

the structure of occupations and industries in which the population is engaged. Using these primary data, secondary indicators such as per capita incomes, productivity levels, as well as industrial profiles and potential can be generated for further use in economic analysis and interventions.

(ii) Use of results for socio-demographic and environmental decisions

The social sector also benefits richly from the results of a census and more recently, many important environmental indicators have been generated from this important source of data. Examples of important socio-demographic indicators generated from a census include the rich primary data which constitute key inputs for education and health indicators such as the Gender Parity Index, Infant and Child Mortality Rates and Maternal Mortality Ratios. Additionally, census results provide the denominators for several incidence and prevalence rates and ratios that are crucial in assessing the health conditions of the population and in identifying the critical population at risk to epidemic diseases. Examples of uses in the environmental sector include data which have proven to be of paramount importance in assessing natural disasters. A census provides population data at the village or settlement level which in times of disaster assessment is invaluable information to assist in disaster assessment.

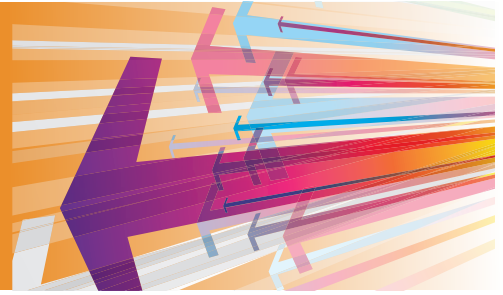
(iii) Other important uses of census data

Additionally, census data provide technical inputs into other important statistical activities such as household surveys. With respect to household surveys, census data provide the basis for a random and representative sample of households to be generated which can then be surveyed to collect more detailed information on key characteristics of the population. Good examples of such follow up household surveys include surveys of Poverty, Crime, Disability, as well as surveys of Income and Expenditure.

IV. The way forward

In the year 2012, all Member States of the Caribbean will have completed the collection of data for the current 2010 round PHCs. Barbados, the Bahamas, Belize, Saint Lucia and the British Virgin Islands conducted their PHCs in 2010 and all other Member States and Associate Members of CARICOM, with the exception of Guyana, Suriname and the Turks and Caicos Islands conducted theirs in 2011. The latter three countries will do their PHCs during 2012. Countries of the subregion now face the challenges of rapid processing, analysis and dissemination of the information collected. For many reasons, capacity to implement these activities may not be available at the national level. It is therefore very important that the various international and regional development partners collaborate very closely to assist the countries in conducting these tasks efficiently. ■

BUILDING ROBUST AND SUSTAINABLE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEMS (NSS): SOME KEY ELEMENTS



I. INTRODUCTION

Recent global developments such as the ongoing economic and financial crisis and the food and energy crises all demonstrated the urgent need for more timely and reliable statistics. Robust statistics that are produced on a more frequent basis are essential to assess the extent of the impact of these crises and to assist in policy planning to mitigate future potential shocks. These painful global occurrences have left no doubt that timely and accurate statistics are essential to the process of informed and reliable decision-making both in the public and private domains. Hence, the development of a robust national statistical system is indispensable to good governance and in promoting sustainable development.

II. Three (3) fundamental elements in establishing a robust statistical system

This article focuses on three (3) fundamental elements of a robust National Statistical System (NSS). Of highest priority must be the recognition that the need for accurate and timely statistics of a broad scope requires political will and commitment and therefore must feature at the top of the development agenda at the highest echelons of national leadership. Regardless of whether policy makers are engaged in economic, social or environmental decision-making, as a first principle, the political directorate has to recognize the indispensable role played by a robust system of statistics. They must be convinced that policies, not only need to be based on objective evidence but that timely and accurate statistics will provide this required evidence. Failure to use reliable statistics at any level of governance will undoubtedly result in very flawed decisions and policies. While political will is necessary, it is not sufficient unless it is translated into a passionate commitment which, in turn, should be evidenced in action. Political will and commitment are most notable when governments provide the enabling environment to support the enhancement of robust statistical systems.

A high quality of adequate human resources represents another key element in this enabling environment of a robust

statistical system. For the system to deliver outputs of high quality and on a timely and regular basis, it is crucial that the system is staffed with dedicated professionals who are also adequately compensated. Hence, it is important to recruit personnel with sterling qualifications who are trainable and adaptable to circumstances that may change but who are also retainable for a reasonable period of time. Efforts should also be made to professionalize the work of the Statistician so that the field is viewed as a profession and not merely a job. This will assist in attracting more dedicated staff to work in the field of statistics.

A third but also most important element in building a robust and sustainable NSS is the need to fully equip statistical organizations with state of the art hardware and software. The information age in which we live and work, necessitates the application of these essential tools to ensure the provision of optimal results.

It is therefore essential that all statistical staff have unlimited and unconditional access to high speed Internet, modern computer hardware and appropriate statistical software. Further, continuous in-service training to upgrade the skills of all statistical staff in the full and

proper use of the ever changing hardware and software should be easily available and accessible to all. This is essential for staff to function at their optimal capacities in order to maintain pace and output delivery. In addition, a necessary complement to any national statistical system is an adequate number of full time and highly skilled IT and data processing personnel since delivering timely and accurate statistics also involves timely data processing and dissemination of the results.

III. Conclusion

In summary, political will and commitment are essential to the maintenance of an effective statistical system. A culture of appreciation for the use of reliable and robust statistics should be cultivated at the highest levels of governance. An appropriate number of highly skilled personnel constitute the second very important pillar of the system. However, in order to retain trained staff, the field of statistics should be promoted as a profession with a career path and competitive compensation. Finally, the statistical infrastructure should be strengthened with cutting edge hardware and software and accompanying support staff in the technological field. These elements form the rubrics of a robust statistical system that when managed properly, will promote the delivery of high quality and timely statistical outputs. ■

THE USE OF THE CENSUS AND SURVEY PROCESSING SYSTEM (CSPRO) IN THE CARIBBEAN



The need for reliable statistical information in the pursuit of the development agenda in the Caribbean has long been recognized. National Statistical Offices (NSOs) continue to seek solutions to strengthen sustainable institutional capabilities for generating and compiling statistics. In response, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) has been providing support to Member States in the design of statistical systems mainly through technical capacity support and training in statistical software and operations. One such training is in the use of the statistical software package - Census and Survey Processing System (CSPRO).

What is CSPRO?

CSPRO is a software package used for capturing, editing, tabulating, and disseminating data from censuses and surveys. It was developed by the United States Census Bureau and is available free of charge to all users. Even though CSPRO provides some tabulation capabilities, it does not replace more sophisticated statistical analysis software (such as SPSS). Nonetheless, the data generated and/or manipulated by the CSPRO application can be imported into other database systems.

Why is CSPRO needed in the Caribbean?

The Member States of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean/Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (ECLAC/CDCC) are committed to pursuing and achieving a number of United Nations agreements such as the Millennium Development Goals, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action. However, in spite of various initiatives, Caribbean countries continue to experience difficulties in addressing additional demands of monitoring and measuring progress created by these Internationally Agreed Development Goals (IADGs). Among these are the perennial issues affecting the collection, compilation, analysis and dissemination of statistical data. Some of these

challenges include shortage of resources, a high staff turnover and a low priority for scarce government funds among competing departments.

The uses of CSPRO

The CSPRO software can equip various ministries and NSOs to more effectively measure progress towards these development goals, report on them and apply evidence-based approaches to national policymaking and planning. This free online software can be used in the editing and data tabulation phase to facilitate the timely preparation and dissemination of national surveys such as the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS); the National Economic Survey (NES) and the Population and Housing Census.

Training workshops

ECLAC in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Subregional Office for the Caribbean conducted two training workshops on CSPRO in Guyana and Grenada (2010 and 2011 respectively). Participants from various ministries and NSOs were introduced to the various components of the CSPRO software and had

opportunities to produce results and have first hand practice in using the data dictionary, CSPRO language, the data entry module, batch editing and the tabulation module.

Based on feedback from participants, the training sessions were quite impactful for both countries as they were deemed relevant and useful to the direct needs of the NSOs and for building institutional capacity in many other government organizations. Among the benefits of the training was the increased competency among some participants in compiling questionnaires and building data dictionaries.

The way forward

ECLAC continues to work on improving and strengthening national and regional capacity with the necessary skills to monitor and report on progress made in the implementation of major IADGs. In order to achieve this objective, ECLAC will continue to strengthen efforts to mobilize resources to enhance expertise at the national and regional levels to generate relevant, reliable, timely and comparable statistical data to foster evidence-based policy decisions. ■



Participants at CSPRO training workshop in Guyana 2010.

REDATAM SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT: 25 YEARS OF ADVANCEMENT AND GROWTH



Over the last 25 years, the REtrieval of DATa for Small Areas by Microcomputer (REDATAM) software which is widely used by many statistical offices for the processing and dissemination of census and survey data, has evolved significantly both in terms of both its processing speed and functionality. The software was developed by the Population Division (CELADE)¹ in response to a need for an efficient computer application with the capacity to store and process large databases such as the decennial population and housing census.

The first generation of REDATAM which was launched for the 1980 round of population and housing censuses enabled national statistical offices (NSOs) to install databases for the storage of thousands of records on hard disks. Further, this innovation afforded NSOs access to a free resource that allowed for quick data processing and generating detailed tabulations for small geographic areas. REDATAM played a very important role in the 1980 and 1990 rounds of the population and housing census and it is expected to expand even further for this current round of censuses.

The changing face of REDATAM

Initial versions of REDATAM simply provided tools for storage and processing of data organized in a hierarchical nature for small geographical areas of interest. Newer modules have been integrated into the most recent versions of the software, which offer enhanced features and functionality extending beyond the mere creation of databases and processing of microdata. REDATAM+SP (shortened R+SP), the fifth and latest generation, includes advanced functions that provide efficient means for creating indicators and publishing or disseminating databases via the internet and other removal hardware such as CD-ROMS. The full suite of products

for this generation include core modules for database creation, data processing and analysis, data dissemination as well as three additional modules for socio-demographic analysis. These modules are: (i) GINI- for the calculation of inequality and poverty indicators; (ii) EIM - for indirect estimation of early infant mortality and (iii) EIF- for indirect estimation of fertility.

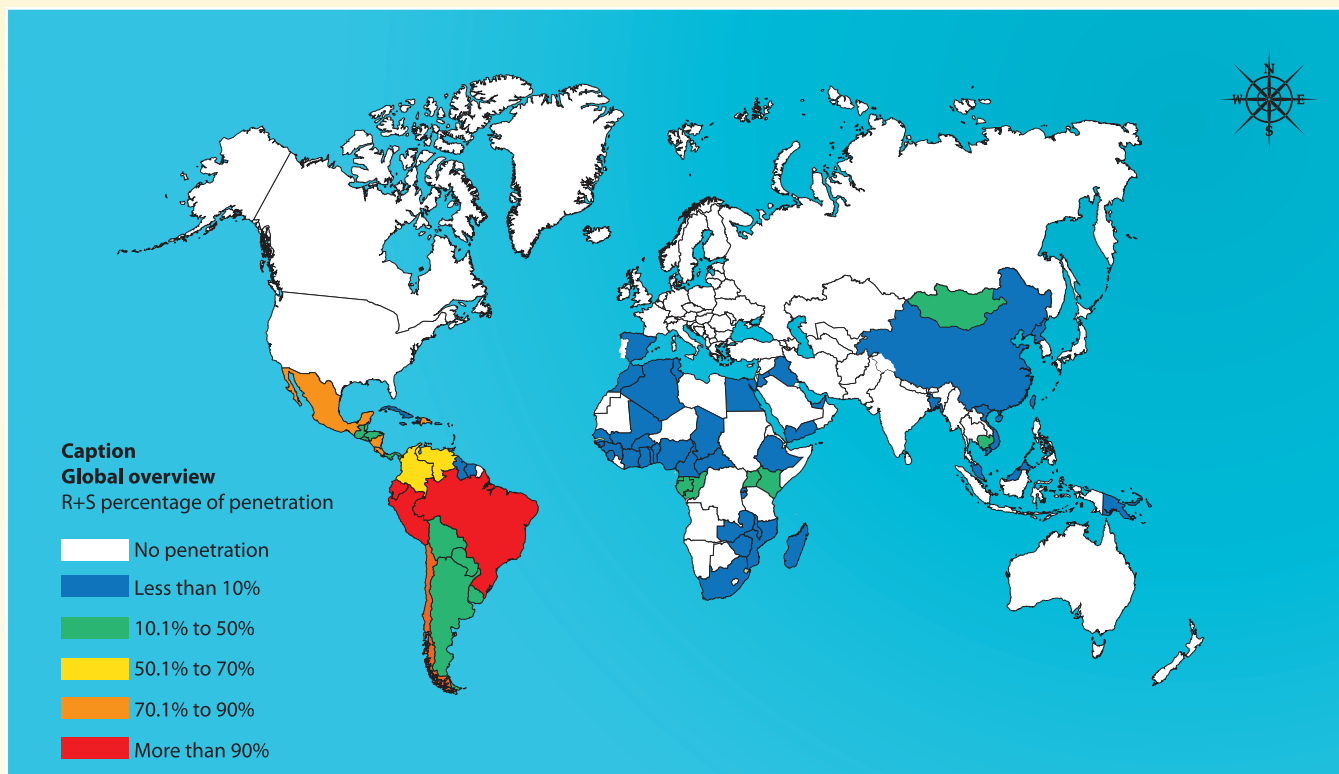
Twenty five years of REDATAM

The evolution of the software has been accompanied by parallel leaps in its global prominence and prevalence. The speed and efficiency of REDATAM has served to enhance its popularity. More significantly, its nature as open ►

ECLAC has a long history of training REDATAM in the Caribbean. Photo shows participants at 2011 workshop in St Lucia.



¹Centro Latinoamericano y Caribeño de Demografía - unit of ECLAC.

Figure 1: Penetration of REDATAM, by country, in 2010

Source: Centro Latinoamericano y Caribeño de Demografía (CELADE), REDATAM Informa, Vol. 17, Santiago, ECLAC, December 2011.

source software, coupled with its inherent capacity to store data in an encrypted format assures complete data confidentiality. This latter feature has been a strong selling point for Caribbean countries given their concerns about preserving data confidentiality within the context of small population sizes. Additionally, the recent releases of the software for the Windows operating system have made it even more accessible to a broader group of users. Such proliferation has also necessitated the translation of user and support information into French, Portuguese and Bahasa. Previously the software was only available in English and Spanish. The figure above shows the penetration of the software in 2010.

Support for the use of the software

From its inception the software has been popular with statistical offices in

Latin America and the Caribbean, and has received immense support from a number of international agencies for its development and promotion, including the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

In recent years, UNFPA has continued to support the promotion and use of the software by national statistical offices in the Caribbean, through the provision of funding for training workshops.

This support together with the commitment of CELADE ensures that REDATAM users are kept abreast with the advancements in the software through the conduct of regular national and regional workshops. Since 2008, two

regional workshops were conducted in Saint Lucia on 2-14 November 2008 and 2-12 August 2011. In addition, at the request of the government of Trinidad and Tobago and Grenada, three national workshops were conducted between 2009 and 2012. These workshops have been significant in assisting NSOs to develop the requisite statistical capacity in the use of the REDATAM computer package for processing of data from the 2010 round of Population and Housing Census and other national surveys.

Going forward

Twenty five years on, the software continues to grow and a sixth generation which will include a number of enhancements to REDATAM+SP is being developed. REDATAM 7 which will be the latest update to the software is due to be launched by the end of 2012. ■

DEVELOPING INDICATORS ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN



BACKGROUND

In the Caribbean, much attention has been given to the issue of violence against women (VAW) and its impact on society. VAW encompasses acts of physical, sexual and psychological violence and has been deemed not only a form of discrimination but more fundamentally a gross violation of the basic human rights of women, the girl child and boys. VAW takes many forms, and the resulting social and economic costs place substantial burden on societies, hampering development.

One of the mechanisms for measuring the extent of violence against women is through national statistics. However, the Caribbean continues to experience challenges with the collection and analysis of data on gender issues. This impedes timely access to accurate information on the status of issues such as VAW. At the national and regional level, key stakeholders have committed to the collection, generation and dissemination of gender-disaggregated data and information. Still, they need assistance with tools such as indicators to facilitate the identification and measurements of issues such as VAW.

It is therefore still quite difficult to get a comprehensive assessment of the pervasiveness of violence against women and children in all its manifestations. It is equally difficult in Caribbean societies to develop evidence-based policies to address the problem.

What are Indicators

Indicators are pointers of change – a measurement, number, fact, opinion or perception that points at a specific condition or situation, whose change is examined. Indicators seek to create an understanding of the different impacts of development interventions on different population groups. For example, indicators are used to monitor gender

related progress or change over time and can be used at many levels to measure and monitor impacts.

There are two categories of indicators on violence against women. One type measures the scope, incidence and prevalence of violence against women and the other measures the effectiveness of programmes implemented to address violence against women. Indicators can be either generic or specific, and are used to raise awareness about the problem of VAW, as well as to influence policy and monitor trends. They can contribute to indicators at global level and can also be used for comparison of trends between countries. Indicators essentially summarise complex data into a form that is meaningful for decision makers¹.

There is need for better quality information, including data, on violence against women to assist in policy making. The first important step is to determine what data to collect, as valuable time can be lost collecting data that is eventually never used and sometimes essential data is ignored. The key is to determine what data is needed to achieve a particular objective. Once the data needs are identified, the development of relevant and appropriate indicators is made easier. It is useful to include guidelines regarding the selection of core and additional topics, identification of data sources, relevant statistical classification, outputs, wording of indicators and other pertinent issues.

Initiatives to develop indicators

A number of initiatives have been undertaken to address the challenges of collecting data on VAW through the development of indicators. These activities include the provision of capacity training and technical services to member states in support of the collection of timely and reliable data on VAW.

At the regional level, the CARICOM Secretariat established a Technical Working Group to review and propose indicators for the measurement of Caribbean specific Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and targets, and recommended the inclusion of targets and indicators reflecting gender based violence. These new targets and indicators were subsequently adopted by the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD). Among the proposed CARICOM Caribbean specific indicators are the following:

- Incidence of reported physical abuse by sex of the abused;
- Type of crime by age and sex of offender and age and sex of the victim;
- Age and sex of persons who report experiencing physical violence in the past year at the hands of an intimate partner; and
- Percent of sexual assault cases completed through court process in a twelve month period of the date of the charge.

(continued on page 10) ►

¹ Sylvia Walby, "Indicators to Measure Violence against Women", Lancaster University, UK. 2007

► (continued from page 3)

Director's Desk

WELL-DEVELOPED STATISTICAL SYSTEMS:
ESSENTIAL AIDS FOR POLICY-MAKING IN
THE CARIBBEAN

and through the delivery of technical assistance to countries on request. ■

Yours in Focus,
Diane



For more information on the work of the Social Development and Statistics Units of ECLAC Caribbean visit the Statistics Unit at <http://www.eclac.org/id.asp?id=42832> and the Social Development Unit at <http://www.eclac.org/id.asp?id=47388>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2nd Quarter 2012

16-20 April, 2012

National workshop on REDATAM+SP xPlan. Port of Spain, **Trinidad**.

26-27 April, 2012

Expert Group Meeting to develop an Action Plan for Sustainable Statistical Capacity Development in the Caribbean. Port of Spain, **Trinidad**.

25 May, 2012

Fourth meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Regional Coordinating Mechanism (RCM) for the Mauritius Strategy for the further implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the sustainable development of Small Island Developing States (BPOA/MSI). Port of Spain, **Trinidad**.

25 May, 2012

Second Meeting of the Caribbean Development Roundtable. Port of Spain, **Trinidad**.

31 May, 2012

Twenty-fourth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee. Georgetown, **Guyana**.

7-8 June, 2012

Third meeting of the project: Development of economic frameworks in support of an assessment of the economic and social impacts of climate change in the Caribbean. Bridgetown, **Barbados**.

12 June, 2012

Expert group meeting on development paths in the Caribbean. Port of Spain, **Trinidad**.



► (continued from page 9)

DEVELOPING INDICATORS ON VIOLENCE
AGAINST WOMEN

At the global level, efforts have been initiated to address the dearth of national data on violence against women. Among these was the establishment by the Statistical Commission of a working group the *Friends of the Chair*, mandated to develop and propose a set of indicators to assist Member States in assessing the scope, prevalence and incidence of violence against women. The group developed eight strategic indicators to address physical violence; sexual violence; intimate partner violence; and harmful practices. The indicators are based on two criteria, namely (1) the availability of data at national level; and (2) the seriousness of the violence itself. It was recommended that all indicators be disaggregated further by severity; the perpetrator and frequency.

At the Subregional level, ECLAC has provided assistance to Member States aimed at enhancing capacity to strengthen mechanisms for the collection of data for the measurement of violence against women and children. Among the decisions and recommendations emanating from these forums was the

adoption of the *Friends of the Chair* indicators on violence against women, and the commitment to continue to build capacity at national level to collect data.

Conclusion

While much work has been undertaken to measure violence against women, more still needs to be done to bring out about transformative change, not only in the Caribbean but also at the global level. The ongoing processes to develop sustainable development goals and the Post-2015 Agenda provides an opportunity to further develop meaningful indicators that will result in better data collection and set standards for statistics² in general.

ECLAC will continue to provide technical support to Caribbean States to assist in the development of sustainable development indicators to enhance the timely and accurate collection, compilation and dissemination of national data on violence against women in the Caribbean. ■

² Sarawathi Menon, 2012. The sustainable development goals and the Post 2015 Agenda: the gender dimensions. UN Women.

LIST of Recent ECLAC Documents and Publications

Listed by Symbol Number, Date and Title

No. LC/W.461

January 2012

Development, institutional and policy aspects of international migration between Africa, Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean.

No. LC/CAR/L.374

March 2012

Report of the second expert group meeting: Development of economic frameworks in support of an assessment of the economic

No. LC/CAR/L.372

January 2012

Report of the fourth expert group meeting of the project: Understanding the potential economic impact of climate change in Latin America and the Caribbean: Methodological issues in modelling the macroeconomic impacts of climate change in the Caribbean.

No. LC/CAR/L.375

March 2012

Climate change and the United Nations conference on sustainable development: A focus on the Caribbean.

No. LC/L.3369

February 2012

Latin America and the Caribbean and the European Union striving for a renewed partnership.

No. LC/CAR/L.343

March 2012

The use of databases of social and gender statistics in the development of policies and programmes.

No. LC/CAR/L.381

February 2012

Preliminary overview of the economies of Latin America and the Caribbean 2011.



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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean

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