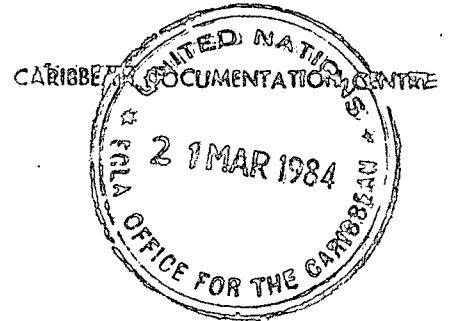


INT-0356

~~CEPA/CARIB/16781~~

EVALUATION MEETING ON THE CARIBBEAN INFORMATION
SYSTEM FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PLANNING (CARISPLAN)
JULY 6-8, 1983



ASSESSMENT OF THE USE OF THE CARIBBEAN INFORMATION
SYSTEM IN JAMAICA



PREPARED BY:

ARLENE T. P. ONONAIWU
ACTING CHIEF LIBRARIAN
DOCUMENTATION CENTRE
NATIONAL PLANNING AGENCY
39-41 BARBADOS AVENUE
KINGSTON
JAMAICA

JUNE 30, 1983

607

DC 15607 Jamaica

Introduction

The Caribbean Information System has had a favourable impact on the control and use of socio-economic information in Jamaica.

In order to show how this has been achieved it is necessary for me to tell you about the structure and functions of the Socio-Economic Network in Jamaica.

Structure of SECIN

The Socio-Economic Information Network is a component of the National Information System of Jamaica. This system came out of the Plan for a National Documentation, Information and Library System for Jamaica which was published in 1978 by the National Council on Libraries, Archives and Documentation Services (NACOLADS).

In that plan all the socio-economic related information units should be grouped to form a network with the National Planning Agency's library/documentation centre as the focal point.

The constituent sectors of SECIN are Management, Culture, Business, Finance and the Media. The recently conducted Resource Survey of SECIN revealed sixty-two units within the network. A list of these units is appended to this report.

- iv) To coordinate national programmes with sub-regional, (CDC) regional (CLADES/ILPES) and international (DEVSIIS) efforts in the socio-economic field.
- v) To procure and process information published regionally or internationally which are relevant to socio-economic affairs in Jamaica.

The Impact of CARISPLAN on the National Infrastructure

CARISPLAN has impacted favourably on the national infrastructure especially the information infrastructure. The programme of the Caribbean Information System coincides with Jamaica's plan for an information system. As stated before, the plan grouped information units into networks according to the subject disciplines, each network having a focal point and a plan to guide its development.

CARISPLAN's programme gave the development of the socio-economic network a forward thrust. To be precise, the objectives set out for the development of SECIN includes the following:

- (a) To develop and maintain a system of bibliographic control for locally generated socio-economic information.
- (b) To prepare abstracting and indexing journals and special subject bibliographies in the field of socio-economic information.

By strengthening the information infrastructure CARISPLAN has had a reasonable impact on the National infrastructure. Through better bibliographic control of locally generated material more documents are available to planners. Thus information personnel are better equipped to retrieve required information.

The document delivery service offered by Caribbean Documentation Centre makes it possible for us at the focal point to acquire material that would otherwise be difficult to obtain.

Workshop on User Education

Caribbean Documentation Centre helped to stage a Workshop on User Education Techniques for use in Special Libraries' - July, 1982.

The workshop provided much valuable information which has helped librarians improve services to users of technical information.

We at the focal point intend to mount a comprehensive user education programme for SECIN, based on the findings of our user survey which is now being conducted. Ideas from the workshop will be incorporated in this programme.

Types of Requests met by the System

The national focal point has had some 20 requests satisfied through the Caribbean Information System.

In the case of the Kingston and St. Andrew Parish Library the low level of use of these publications could be due to the fact that the readers are unaware of the publications.

The consensus among most information personnel is that they have not exploited the system sufficiently, especially the publications. They are aware of the benefits that can be realized in the area of collection building by using these publications as 'book selection' tools.

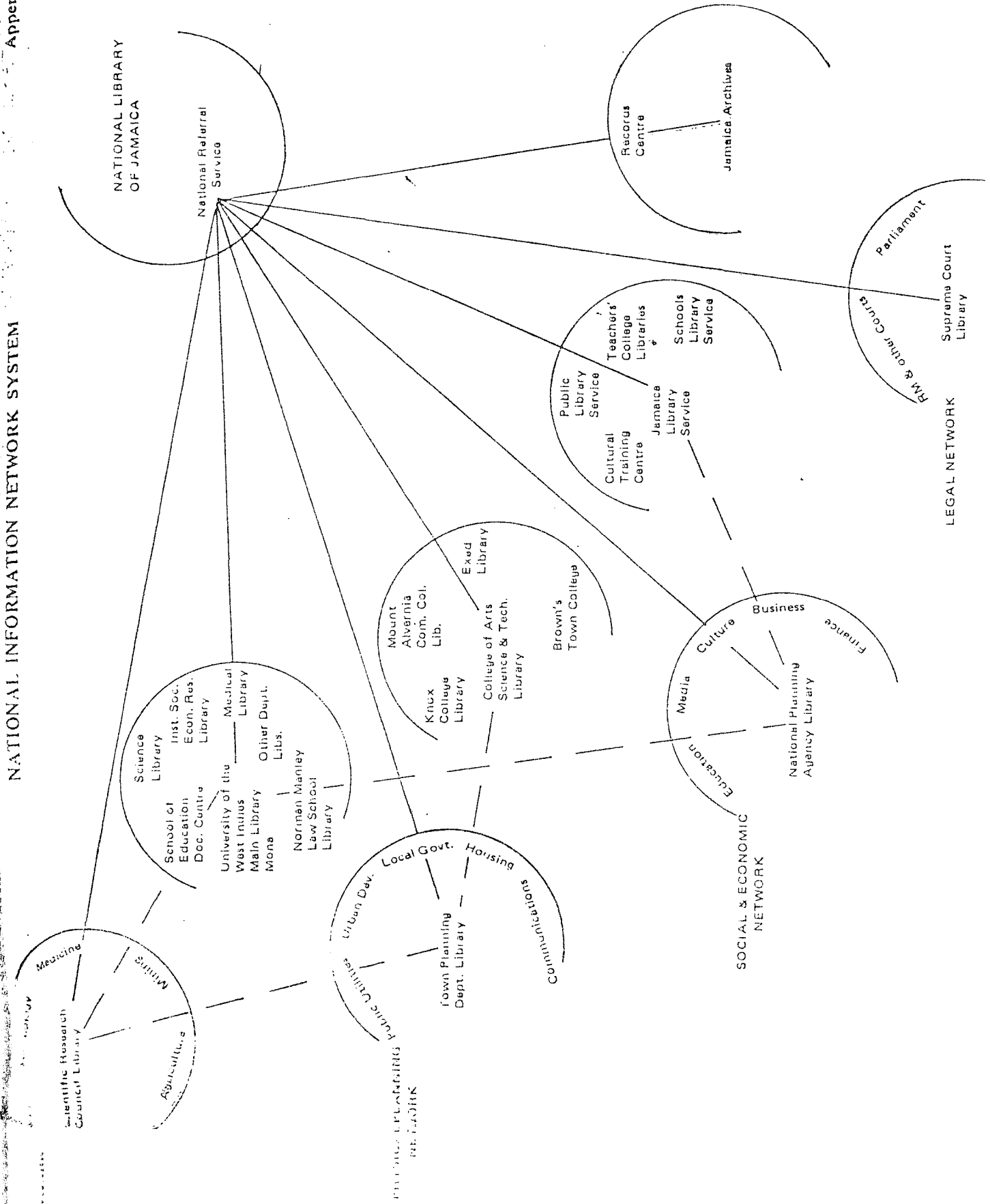
solutions and Recommendations

- 1) The national focal point realizes that it could do much more to promote the Caribbean Information System in Jamaica. A promotional programme could increase awareness of its services and products. Hence we plan to mount a promotional programme this year. Information about the system and its products will be included in SECIN News and in other professional publications such as newsletters of NACOLADS, National Library of Jamaica and Jamaica Library Association. We shall also educate users in the use and value of CARISPLAN Abstracts and the Current Awareness Bulletin

- 2) Advanced training for persons who have been abstracting and indexing on a full time basis for more than one year is needed. A possible solution to this problem is to have these abstractors/indexers concentrate on complex materials during regular workshops. In these sessions they should be given time to present problems they had encountered over a period of time.

Another possibility is that attachments of such persons to Caribbean Documentation Centre could be arranged.

NATIONAL INFORMATION NETWORK SYSTEM



LIST OF PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS IN SECIN

(CONT'D)

name of organization	Address of Organization	Person in Charge of Parent Organization	Person in charge of Library/Information Centre
3. Bank of Jamaica	Nethersole Place Kingston Mall Ph. 20750	Hon. Horace Barber Governor	Mrs. P. Jackson
4. Jamaica Bauxite Institute	15 Caledonia Place Kingston 5 Ph. 69210	Dr. Carlton Davis Director	Mrs. Rosalie Williams
5. Jamaica Broadcasting Corp.	5-9 South Odeon Ave. Kingston 10 Ph. 65629	Mrs. Gloria Lannaman, Acting General Manager	Mrs. Glennar Shirley-Smith
6. Jamaica Chamber of Commerce	7 East Parade Kingston Ph. 20150	Mr. Roy Collister President	Miss O. Chong
7. Jamaica Employers' Federation	2A Ruthven Road Kingston 10 Ph. 66762	<i>Major Eric Grell</i>	<i>Mrs. B. Alexander</i>
8. Jamaica Industrial Dev. Corp.	4 Winchester Road Kingston 10 Ph. 63130/62137	Personnel Manager Mr. A. L. Johnson	Mrs. Millicent Taylor
9. Jamaica Information Service	58 Half Way Tree Rd Kingston 10 Ph. 63140/63590	Mr. Ken Jones Executive Director	Miss Valerie Simpson and Miss C. Murray
10. Jamaica Institute of Management	15 Hillcrest Ave. Kingston 6 Ph. 75857/76454	Mr. D. Creary Assistant Manager	Mrs. Grant or Mr. D. Creary
11. Jamaica International Tele-Communication Ltd.	15 North Street Kingston Ph. 26031/26041	Mr. T. O. Mignott General Manager	Miss Claudia Barnes
12. Jamaica Service	2 Tom Redcan Drive Kingston 5 Ph. 63310	Mrs. Sybil Iton Acting Director	
13. Jamaica National Commission for UNESCO	C/o Ministry of Education, 2 Heroes Circle Kingston 4 Ph. 21400	The Hon. Hector Wynter, Permanent Representative	Miss Patricks
14. Jamaica National Export Corporation	8 Waterloo Road Kingston 10 Ph. 61200	Mr. Peter King Managing Director	Miss Norma Davis

LIST OF PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS IN SECTION
(CONT'D)

Name of Organization	Address of Organization	Person in Charge of Organization	Person in Charge of Library/Information Centre
1. National Library of Jamaica	12 East Street Kingston Ph. 20620	Miss S. Ferguson	Miss S. Ferguson
2. National Planning Agency	39-41 Barbados Ave. Kingston 5 Ph. 61480-3	Dr. H. Brown Chief Technical Director	Mrs. A. Ononaiwu
3. National Savings Committee	15 Knustford Blvd. Kingston 5 Ph. 68403/63475	Mr. Derrick Peart	Miss P. Peck
4. National Water Commission	12 Trinidad Terrace Kingston 5 Ph. 95430	Mr. Leo Lawson Chief Technical Director	Miss Ruby Grant pr Miss Janice Fennel
5. Police Training School Library	Twickenham Park St. Catherine	<i>ACP Wallen</i>	Corporal E. Maitland
6. Private Sector Organization of Jamaica	14 Hope Road Kingston 6 Ph. 66943	Mr. Neville James	Mr. Neville James
7. Professional Centre of Jamaica	2A Ruthven Road Kingston 10 Ph. 62434	Mr. G. Lampart Manager	Mr. G. Lampart
8. Radio Jamaica Record Library	32 Lyndurst Road Kingston 5 Ph. 61100		Mrs. J. Lyons
9. St. Michael's Seminary	Golding Avenue Kingston 7 Ph. 29285	<i>F. Charles Dufour</i>	<i>Miss L. Brown</i>
10. School of Education Centre Documentation/	U.W.I. Mona, Kingston 7 Ph. 70769	Mrs. Amy Robertson	Mrs. Amy Robertson
11. Social Development Comm	3 Richmond Avenue Kingston 10 Ph. 68000		Miss V. Longman
12. Social Welfare Training Centre Library	U.W.I. Mona, Kingston 7 Ph. 79870/70787	Professor Rex Nettleford	Miss B. Fletcher
13. Small Business Association	2 Trafalgar Road Kingston 10 Ph. 77071	<i>Mr. Adolph Brown</i>	Mrs. Shannon Ricketts
14. State Trading Corporation	8 Ocean Boulevard Kingston Ph. 20971	Mr. O. K. Melhado Managing Director	Mrs. A. Akwa
15. Dept of Statistics Library	9 Swallowfield Road, Kgn. 5 Ph. 62175	Mrs. Carmen McFarlane Director of Statistics	Mrs. P. Blake
16. Survey Dept's Technical Records Section	23 1/2 Charles St. Kingston Ph. 26630	<i>Mr. R.S. Robinson</i>	Mrs. S. McKenzie
17. Urban Dev. Corporation	Block 4 Ocean Boulevard Kingston Ph. 28310/27807	Mrs. G. Knight Managing Director	Mrs. A. Davis