



Development of environment statistics programmes for SIDS – the case of Grenada

Side Event: Environment and Climate Change Statistics – the nexus
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Outline

- SIDS and Environment Statistics
- Country Background
- Main Environment Issues, Concerns & Priorities
- Environment Policies, Programmes and Obligations
- Main institutions involved in environmental data/statistics/information production
- Data Currently Collected
- Compendium for Environment Statistics
- Past and Present Activity to Improve Collaboration
- Suggested future Activities to Improve Collaboration
- Future Plans in Environment Statistics
- Policy Applications

Small island developing states (SIDS) and environment statistics

- Many SIDS are low-lying countries and are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, as well as to coastal erosion and contamination.
- SIDS are affected by natural disasters, including extreme weather events such as hurricanes, tropical storms and cyclones, as well as droughts and flooding which threaten human settlements, infrastructure and the economy.
- Many economic sectors such as water, tourism, agriculture, fisheries and forestry depend on natural resources for economic development, therefore issues such as land degradation and water pollution and sedimentation are serious environmental concerns.

Country Background (Grenada)

- Grenada is 19 km long with a coastline of 121 km with an area of 344 km²
- Grenada has an estimated population of about 111,959 persons
- Gross Domestic Product (GDP) real growth rate 4.14% (2018)
- Grenada's Unemployment Rate 15.2% (1st quarter 2019)



Main Environment Issues, Concerns & Priorities

- Achievement and goals in the National Sustainable Development Plan and the SDGs
- The Blue Economy
- Land Degradation -Deforestation causing habitat destruction and species loss;
- Coastal erosion and Contamination
- Pollution and Sedimentation
- Inadequate solid waste management
- Climate change
- Coastal Land Development
- Invasive Species
- Vulnerability to natural disasters



Environment Policies, Programmes and Obligations

- Grenada National Sustainable Development Plan
 - Goal #1: High Human and Social Development: Putting People at the Centre of Sustainable Development and Transformation.
 - Goal #2: Vibrant, Dynamic, Competitive Economy with Supporting Climate- and-Disaster-Resilient Infrastructure.
 - Goal #3: Environmental Sustainability & Security

Two of the main goals focus on the Environment



Environment Policies, Programmes and Obligations

Environmental dimension of the SDGs

- Goal 6. Clean Water and Sanitation
- Goal 7. Affordable and Clean Energy
- Goal 11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
- Goal 12. Responsible Consumption and Production
- Goal 13. Climate Action
- Goal 14. Life below Water
- Goal 15. Life on Land



Almost half of the SDG targets require environment statistics to compile its indicators.
Need for improvement in data and statistics to monitor progress on the SDGs
and the associated need for statistical capacity building is key



Environment Policies, Programmes and Obligation

- **The Blue Economy**
- Blue Growth Coastal Master Plan
- A draft integrated spatial plan for our marine and coastal environments and the economic activities they can support sustainably.
- Blue Vision
- Grenada's Blue Growth Vision:
 - To optimize the coastal, marine, and ocean resources to become a world leader and international prototype for Blue Growth and Sustainability

Environment Policies, Programmes and Obligations



- **Land Degradation**

- 2001 – A Forestry Policy was Developed
- Forestry Division had a campaign educating the general public importance of proper practices that would not affect the forest.
- Ongoing program of providing seedling to private land owners to encourage reforestation.

- **Agriculture**

- A Food and Nutrition Policy and Plan of Action for Grenada to develop and boost agricultural Output
- Continuous Awareness programme

Environment Policies, Programmes and Obligations

- **Biodiversity**

- Creation of a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
- Ratified the SPAW Protocol
- Ratified the CBD
- Protected Area System Plan throughout Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique



Environment Policies, Programmes and Obligations

- **Coastal Land Development**

- Physical Planning and Development Control Act #25 2000 (monitors the building processes within Grenada)
- Continuous Public Awareness.

- **Coastal Erosion**

- **Sand Mining -**

- Government prohibited sand mining
- (prohibiting the use of beach sand in Construction.

- **Contamination of Drinking Water**

- **Salt Water Intrusion**

- Closed Contaminated Wells
- Upgrade water treatment plants (EU Funding)



Environment Policies, Programmes and Obligations

- **Climate Change**

- Ratifies the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol and submitted continuous report as mandated for contracting parties
- Establishment of a Ministry of Climate, Resilience and the Environment et al.
- Establishment of a National Climate Change Committee (oversee the implementation of Climate Change Initiative)
- Ongoing Public Awareness
- Making St. George a climate smart city



Environment Policies, Programmes and Obligations

- **Solid Waste**

- Legislation against illegal dumping oily waste in waterways
- Solid Waste Act Regulations 1999
- Established waste landfills (though no segregation of waste)
- Scheduled collection of Waste
- Construction waste must be sorted before being disposed
- Continuous Awareness Campaign



Environment Policies, Programmes and Obligations

- **Pollution**
- Sewerage and Grey Water
 - Implementation of Sewerage Systems in St. George
 - Plans to expand sewerage systems within Grenada
- **Agricultural Pesticides and residues**
 - Created guidelines to the proper use of these pesticides



Main institutions involved in environmental data/statistics/information production

- Central Statistical Office
- Ministry of Agriculture
- Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment, Forestry, Fisheries and Disaster Management
- National Water and Sewerage Authority (NAWASA)
- Grenada Solid Waste Management Authority (GSWMA)
- GRENLEC
- Min. of Public Utilities and Energy-Energy division
- Meteorological office
- Ministry of Health
 - Environmental Health
 - Epidemiology
- Grenada Tourism Authority
- Ministry of Finance IRD & Customs
- NADMA



Data Currently Collected

- Central Statistical Office
 - Household survey data: population, access to water & drinking, sanitation, garbage disposal, fuel for cooking & lighting, import data-fuel and fertilizers
- Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment, Forestry, Fisheries and Disaster Management
 - Fish landings, marine protected areas, info on climate related events (hurricanes, drought, floods etc.)
- Ministry of Agriculture and Lands - Agricultural census data
- Ministry of Health - Environmentally related diseases, medical professionals
- Energy Division - Petroleum imports and sales
- Inland Revenue Division - Vehicle registration: new and used vehicles
- NAWASA - Water production
- GRENLEC - Electricity production and consumption
- Meteorological Office - Rainfall and temperature
- GSWMA - Waste data
- GTA - Tourist & cruise ship arrivals, visitor expenditure, passenger traffic, aircraft landings



Compendium for Environment Statistics

Status

- Draft Compendium currently being reviewed and updated
- To provide information in all areas of environment statistics including water, health, air, energy, tourism, forestry, fisheries, transport etc.
- Expected time for publication: April 2020

Current Issues and Challenges



- Grenada is one of the many Caribbean island that struggles to adequately collect statistical data on the environment indicators

Due to

- Lack of Harmonized Metadata and Methodologies across NSS adopting the UN FDES
- Inadequate Staff in NSO and Line Ministries
 - Only one staff member dedicated to Environment Statistics at NSO
 - No Statistician or staff responsible for data collection in Min. of Environment
- Systems of data producers and supplier not design to capture information to allow for reporting according to international standards (e.g. water and waste)
- NSO being the secondary data collectors for most of the environment statistics have depend on Data providers who are not obligated to supply data by deadline resulting in delays in data production
- Loss of institutional memory due to transfers of staff within line ministries

Past and Present Activity to improve Collaboration

- **Past**

- CARICOM Secretariat and CSO undertook an exercise of visiting all stakeholders involve in the data collection process to try to strengthen the process in 2014.

- **Present**

- UNSD and CSO organized a National Workshop on Environment Statistics and Climate Change Statistics (St. George's, Grenada, 12-14 Nov 2019) to train environment statistics stakeholders & put a system in place for data compilation (<https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/meetings/2019-Grenada/Grenada.cshtml>).
- Grenada also hosted the UNSD/CARICOM Regional Workshop on Environment Statistics and Climate Change Statistics (St. Georges, Grenada, 4-8 Nov 2019) (<https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/meetings/2019-Caricom%20Region/CaricomRegion.cshtml>)

Objectives and Outcomes of the National Workshop

- The main objectives of the workshop were to:
 - increase visibility of environment statistics through the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES 2013) and the Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool (ESSAT)
 - build technical capacity in this subject area in the country, by bringing the stakeholders together to assess work undertaken by Grenada in recent years
 - provide hands-on training on priority topics such as climate change, hazardous events and disasters, water, waste, land, environmental health, biodiversity and forest statistics. These topics were discussed in the context of reporting obligations under the corresponding Multilateral Environmental Agreements, the environmentally-related SDGs and national policies including 'Blue Growth' for which there is a strong need to develop marine/ocean statistics.
- The workshop participants adopted a set of recommendations, including:
 - setting up an Inter-agency Committee and a Technical Sub-committee on Environment and Climate Change Statistics
 - the Government of Grenada becoming a signatory to and ratify the various MEAs that they have not signed on to or ratified as yet
 - development of a National Action Plan (NAP) for Environment Statistics
 - implementation of the FDES 2013 and the ESSAT
 - participation in the Global Consultation on Climate Change Statistics and Indicators.

Suggested Future Activities to Improve Collaboration



- Improvement of the data sharing mechanism. Develop data sharing agreements with data providers to ensure timeliness of data submission
- Establish roles and responsibilities for the Stakeholders producing environment data and present data in final form to persons involved in production of the data
- Creation of a standard template/ reporting for the reporting of the data by stakeholders
- Continuous collaboration with line ministries and other stakeholders in the production of data
 - E.g. collaborating with the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Environment in doing joint publications as well as have monthly inter-agency working group meetings in developing the system of environment statistics production.

Future Plans in Environment Statistics

- Organize the Inter-agency Committee and a Technical Sub-committee on Environment and Climate Change Statistics – TOR developed and cabinet submission being prepared.
- Regular production of environment statistics and publishing of compendia
- Have a dedicated staff for the compilation of Environment Statistics
- Implement the FDES 2013 and the ESSAT
- Develop a National Action Plan for Environment Statistics
- Continuous training for persons involved in the data collection process
- Link closer environment and climate change statistics and participate in the UNSD Global Consultation on Climate Change Statistics and Indicators.
- User Forums



Policy Applications

- Monitoring of National Developments goals and the sectoral goals in the various sub-sectors of the environment.
- Monitor governments implementation of polices and programmes mentioned earlier as well as the impact of legislation. To take corrective action if improvement is not realized.
- Important information for researchers and development partners in the area of environment.
- Preserving environment for future generation ensuring sustainable development
- Ensuring Food Security Poverty Reduction



Thank You

