

Given the challenges faced by National Statistical Offices (NSOs) due to the limited capabilities of research programmes in the region, the implications for the absence of such research programmes were discussed at the Second Meeting of the AGS which was held in June 2008 in San Ignacio, Belize. In this regard, the decision was therefore taken at the AGS to conduct an initial research seminar to coincide with the 33rd SCCS and the 16th RCCC scheduled for 27-31 October 2008 in Barbados.

The objective of this research seminar is to facilitate discussions on issues of concern to statisticians and other users in the region and to also highlight the role of research in improving the capabilities of statistical work from both users and producers perspective. Some of the significant benefits that can be derived are :-

1. **Enabling a better understanding of the data;**
2. **Allowing for methodological research ;**
3. **Facilitating the process of anonymisation/ dissemination of microdata.**

Thirteen (13) papers were received by the Secretariat from Member States and International and Regional Organisations. The Secretariat is extremely appreciative of the excellent presentations received which will be very informative to the Seminar and to the debate on statistical issues on which we are now embarking.



Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians (SCCS)

FIRST REGIONAL STATISTICAL RESEARCH SEMINAR

BARBADOS, 31 OCTOBER 2008

(Recommended by the Advisory Group on Statistics)

Seminar Themes:

- The conduct of Population and Housing Censuses and the Regional Special Topic Monographs (RSTMs);
- The construction of Retail Price Indices (RPI);
- Income and Household Surveys; and
- The construction of Poverty Lines and Food Security;

*“Working Together to Improve Statistics in the
Twenty-First Century and Beyond”*

PROGRAMME

SECTION I: THE CONDUCT AND ANALYSIS OF POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS

1. Bermuda's 2000 Census Experience Collecting Family Data; by *Melinda Williams, Social Statistician, Department of Statistics, BERMUDA* 9:00-9:15 am

Discussion 9:15-9:40am

2. The Elderly in the Caribbean by *Valerie Nam, Director, Censuses and Demographic Statistics, Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN), JAMAICA* 9:40-9:55am

Discussion 10:55-10:20am

SECTION II: THE CONSTRUCTION OF RETAIL PRICE INDICES (CPI) AND ISSUES RELATED TO THE ANALYSIS OF INFLATION

3. Consumer Price Index and Headline and Core Inflation in selected CARICOM countries (abstract) by *Iwan Sno, Director, General Bureau of Statistics, SURINAME* 10:20-10:35am

Discussion 10:35-11:00am

4. Poverty Measures and Poverty Lines for Trinidad and Tobago, by *Sandra Sookram, Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO and Abbi M. Kadir, Department of Economics, University of Leicester* 11:00-11:15am

Discussion 11:15-11:40am

SECTION III: DATA GAPS ON THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGS)

5. Completing Data Gaps For The Millennium Development Goals (SMDG) - (A Small Island State Experience The Case Of Dominica) by *Prayma Carette, Chief Statistician, Central Statistical Office, DOMINICA* 11:40-11:55am

Discussion 11:55-12:20pm

L U N C H (12:20-1:20pm)

PROGRAMME

FIRST PANEL : OTHER ISSUES RELATED TO CENSUS DATA COLLECTION AND DATA QUALITY

1:20 - 2:10pm

**Time for each presenter 10 minutes
General panel discussion 20 minutes**

6. Development of a National Policy Framework for Census Data dissemination utilising a Geographic Data Management Systems (GDMS) by *Harold Wall, Common Census Framework Project Coordinator, CARICOM Secretariat*
7. Post Enumeration Survey, by *Bruce Spencer, Statistician, Central Statistical Office, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO*
8. Benefits and Challenges of Collecting International Migration Statistics, by *Melinda Williams, Social Statistician, Department of Statistics, BERMUDA*

SECOND PANEL: HOUSEHOLD/BUSINESS SURVEYS; EMPLOYMENT; AND INFORMAL SECTOR/INFORMALISING OF EMPLOYMENT

2:10 - 3:20pm

**Time for each presenter 10 minutes
General panel discussion 20 minutes**

9. Jobless Working Age Households in Barbados by *Victor Browne, Senior Statistician, Barbados Statistical Service, BARBADOS*
10. Harmonisation of Households by *Linda Hewitt, Director, Centre for Interdisciplinary Research and Development, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO*
11. The Informal Sector and more recent notions of informalisation of Employment – The evolution of the notion of the informal sector, its definition, measurement and relevance for policy. by *Reynold Simons, Senior Specialist, Employment and Labour Market Policies, International Labour Organisation (ILO), Sub-Regional Office for the Caribbean.*
12. Migrant Labour and the Barbadian Society by *Aisha Nalishebo, Statistician I, Barbados Statistical Service, BARBADOS*
13. Early Childhood Education and Human Development Prospects: Are Some Children Disadvantaged, by *Dr. Godfrey St. Bernard, Senior Fellow, Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO*