



# PRASC NEWSLETTER

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The PRASC team is pleased to present its semiannual newsletter. This edition covers activities that took place between October 2018 and May 2019, as well as selected upcoming activities. If you wish to be added to the distribution list, please send an email to [statcan.prasc-prasc.statcan@canada.ca](mailto:statcan.prasc-prasc.statcan@canada.ca).

## OECS Statistical Communication and Advocacy Group (OSCAAG)

In December 2018, members of the OSCAG participated in a workshop in Ottawa on the principles and practices of communications to enhance statistical awareness. Participants learned the essentials of developing a communication plan, engaging with respondents, engaging with the media, developing and managing a social media campaign, creating infobites, optimizing their web presence, planning events, and developing an advance-release calendar. The OSCAG also held its first meeting at this workshop, and now meets virtually on a monthly basis. PRASC continues to support the OSCAG in various communication areas and priorities.



OECS Statistical Communication and Advocacy Group  
Ottawa, December 2018 Photo: Danielle Lalonde

## System of National Accounts workshop

In October 2018, PRASC and the Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Centre (CARTAC) held a joint regional reporting and planning workshop in Saint Lucia. This was an opportunity for countries to take stock of existing projects and share best practices, challenges and lessons learned. They also revisited work plans for the remaining half of PRASC.



Joint CARTAC-  
PRASC SNA  
regional workshop

Saint Lucia,  
October 2018

Photo: CARTAC

## New websites

The Central Statistical Office of Grenada launched its first official national statistical office (NSO) website ([stats.gov.gd](http://stats.gov.gd)) in October, and the Saint Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines offices launched new, modern versions of their NSO websites in November ([stats.gov.lc](http://stats.gov.lc) and [stats.gov.vc](http://stats.gov.vc)). The Statistics Division of Antigua and Barbuda's first website ([statistics.gov.ag](http://statistics.gov.ag)) has been online since December, and the office is planning an official launch in the coming months. PRASC continues to support these offices in building capacity to manage and maintain the websites and in planning for future developments. PRASC is also working with the Dominica, Montserrat, and St. Kitts and Nevis statistical offices to develop their first official websites.

## Statistical business register

Development continued on the SQL generic statistical business register (SBR), and the first prototype was delivered to nine countries working with PRASC. This allowed those countries to become familiar with the SBR while also providing the PRASC IT team with insightful feedback on the application so that they may deliver a final version that will meet the NSOs' needs. The final version should be ready by June 2019, with the first SBR mission in September 2019. In the meantime, initial SBR concept missions were held in Grenada (November 2018) and Montserrat (April 2019) to lay the foundation for implementing the SBRs. Grenada will migrate to the SQL version, and Montserrat will migrate to a slightly modified Excel version of what had been initially developed for St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

## Caribbean Statistics Day

In October 2018, PRASC partnered with the OECS Commission and the Central Statistical Office (CSO) of Grenada to engage with students in Grenada about statistics, including their importance, benefits and place in various careers. The CSO also used these visits and other public engagement activities to officially launch its website. PRASC always looks forward to celebrating and advocating statistics with you!



*Caribbean Statistics Day  
Grenada  
October 2018  
Photo: Lovely Anthony*

## Work with the Bahamas

PRASC has been working with the Bahamas Department of Statistics (DOS) on moving its Labour Force Survey (LFS) to computer-assisted phone interview (CAPI) collection. Both the May and November LFS are now 100% CAPI-based, using the World Bank's Survey Solutions software. PRASC is also working with the DOS to set up CAPI for its census collection operations. In addition to performing work related to CAPI, the DOS received data analysis training. In December 2018, an in-country mission was held to work on drafting short analytical reports on the LFS and the national accounts.

## Continuing work on supply and use tables

In-country missions were held in Belize, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Grenada to advance work on compiling supply and use tables (SUTs). Efforts are always made to maximize use of available data from partners in the national statistical system. SUTs help countries comply with the System of National Accounts 2008 in a way that aligns with the national economies. They also provide a benchmark level of gross domestic product and an exhaustive accounting of data holdings and gaps that need addressing.

## Upcoming PRASC workshops

PRASC will be conducting a workshop with selected countries on confidentiality and anonymization. The workshop will be held in the Bahamas from June 17 to 20 and will set the stage for providing individual support to the countries. Also, the second module of the leadership workshop will be held in Jamaica (July 2 to 5). In addition to reviewing some of the subjects discussed in the first module, the sessions will include topics such as coaching, providing and receiving feedback, leading in a crisis, leadership/management interface in disaster recovery, and leading change and transition. One day will also be dedicated to project management.