



## **CALL FOR PAPERS for the SIXTEENTH REGIONAL STATISTICAL RESEARCH SEMINAR**

The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat will be holding its **Sixteenth Regional Statistical Research Seminar** on **Friday, 30 October 2026**, at **9:00 a.m.** in **Rendezvous, Anguilla**.

National Statistical Offices (NSOs) throughout the Region face a number of challenges due to the limited capability of research programmes.

It could be recalled that the implications of the absence of such research programmes were discussed at the Second Meeting of the Advisory Group on Statistics (AGS), which was held in San Ignacio, Belize from 23-26 June 2008.

The significant benefits to of executing such a research agenda include -

- (i) enabling a better understanding of the data and its uses;
- (ii) allowing for methodological research into areas such as the methodology used in the construction of Statistical indices, the approach to conducting Surveys such as Living Conditions and Household Budgetary Surveys; and other Living Standards Measurement Surveys;
- (iii) Integration of Geospatial and Statistical information and its application to the Sustainable Development Agenda;
- (iv) Demonstrating the uses of big data and data from unconventional sources and their application to official statistics;
- (v) Facilitating the process of anonymisation/dissemination of micro data; and
- (vi) Being informed on issues that can aid the development of Statistics and of Statisticians in the Region;

In this regard, the decision was taken at the Second Meeting of the AGS to conduct an initial Research Seminar to coincide with the Thirty-Third Meeting of the Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians (33<sup>rd</sup> SCCS) and the Sixteenth Meeting of the Regional Census Coordinating Committee (16<sup>th</sup> RCCC) that was held on 27-31 October 2008 in Barbados.

At the Fifteenth Regional Statistical Research Seminar that was held on 31 October 2025, in Willemstad, Curaçao, presentations were made on the following topics:

- (i) An AI Classification Model for the Automated Coding of Industry and Occupation in Belize's Labour Force Survey;
- (ii) Optimal Future State for the Coordination of the CARICOM Statistical System;
- (iii) Nowcasting Real GDP Growth in The Bahamas;
- (iv) ChatBot on Statistics Website;
- (v) Big Data, Small Systems: Using Digital Trace Data to Strengthen Caribbean Statistical Frameworks; and
- (vi) Population Projection for Geriatric Care: Forecasting the Elderly Population Structure in Jamaica, 2010 – 2050.

#### **Mode of Submission**

- (i) An extended Abstract of not more than five hundred words should be submitted in electronic version to the Secretariat; and
- (ii) A full draft Paper (of approximately two thousand-four thousand words) should be submitted in electronic version in advance.

The submissions should contain a professional exposition of ideas, techniques and results, motivation for the research and a comparative analysis where feasible.

The Presentation should be no more than fifteen (15) minutes, after which an additional fifteen minutes would be allotted for any questions or comments from the audience.

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Persons wishing to present Papers are asked to submit the **Extended Abstract** in electronic form by **Friday, 16 October 2026**. This should be sent for the attention of:

Mr. Halim Brizan

Director

Regional Statistics

CARICOM Secretariat

E-mail: [halim.brizan@caricom.org](mailto:halim.brizan@caricom.org); [michelle.chase@caricom.org](mailto:michelle.chase@caricom.org) and  
[stats1@caricom.org](mailto:stats1@caricom.org)

Full Papers should also be submitted in electronic form **no later than Wednesday, 21 October 2026** to the same e-mail addresses above.

A limited number of Papers would be selected for presentations at the Seminar. Other Papers not selected would be distributed at the Seminar and included for dissemination as part of the outputs of the Seminar or other appropriate peer review. This is to allow for adequate time for substantive discussions.

Graduates from the various training Workshops are particularly invited to prepare and present Papers at this Seminar.

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