



CARICOM





# **Regional Seminar: Assessing the Economic Contribution and Performance of Creative Industries to National Economies**

## **Potentials of Regional Bodies in Facilitating Studies on Economic Contribution of the Creative Industries**

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Rodney Bay Village, Saint Lucia  
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**International Trade Centre.. European Union.. World Intellectual  
Property Organisations**

# OVERVIEW

- ❖ Role of Institution in Data Collection in the CI;
- ❖ What are the challenges faced;
- ❖ Potential in Facilitating Studies (Opportunities);
- ❖ Assistance Needed.

# Role of Institution in Data Collection in the Creative Industries

- ❖ The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat Regional Statistics Programme does not collect data directly in member countries;
- ❖ Data are collected by member countries and are processed and submitted to the Secretariat to compile regional databases;
- ❖ No data requested/submitted on the CI in a direct manner;

# Role of Institution in Data Collection in the Creative Industries

- ❖ Data are available as follows:
  - ❖ Trade in goods at the commodity level data are collected for a Regional Trade Information System – most countries have implemented the – HS 2007- so that data in HS 2002 would be available (online data);
  - ❖ Trade in Services – aggregated data utilising the Balance of Payments (BOPS) and in the case of 6 member countries data at the level of EBOPS (Extended BOPS);
  - ❖ National Accounts – ISIC but it would not be the latest version which is the Rev.4- the issue of aggregation would negate the identification of CI data

# Role of Institution in Data Collection in the Creative Industries

- ❖ Employment- more problematic for the OECS countries but the ILO is working with the OECS Secretariat and member states to enable the conduct of Labour Force Surveys;
- ❖ For these countries information would be available from the Census on employed by occupation and industry - national adaptations would assist;
- ❖ Most of the other countries have regular or continuous labour force surveys to provide this information

# What are the challenges faced?

- **Statistics as a National Priority:**
- Is it treated as a priority area by governments?
- Is this reflected in the national budget/ investment that can improve the availability and quality of statistics;
- Increased demands being made for statistics – ICT, Environment, Government Procurement, High Frequency Indicators, CSME, MDGs, CI, etc.

# What are the challenges faced?

- **Resource Constraints manifested in Staffing and Equipment inadequacies**
- Inadequacies with respect staffing in some offices and at the regional level;
- The element of staff turnover;
- Issues with respect to equipment;
- Staff remuneration, low morale in general;



# What are the challenges faced?

## Statistical Coordination:

- Lack of statistical coordination which imply that the National Statistical Systems (NSS) are not cohesive leading to a lack of harmonisation and undermines the availability of statistics;
- Coordination of the NSS (the National Statistical Office and other producers of official statistics) improves the coverage of official statistics particularly from administrative sources;
- To ensure that the statistics collected from these sources are measured accurately and conforms to the relevant methodological standards.



# What are the challenges faced?

## Statistical Harmonisation

- Within country, across countries and international data comparability;

## Data Quality – Timeliness, Relevance, etc.

- timeliness in the production and dissemination of the data which has implication for relevance

## Non-Response

- Non-response by suppliers or potential suppliers affects the quality of the data;



# Potential – Interventions and Opportunities

- The existence of functioning of the Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians – heads of statistical offices, regional and international organizations, UWI, UG;
- Advisory Group on Statistics – reports to the SCCS responsible for follow-up;
- Issue of Statistics addressed in the Community Council of Ministers in 2001;



# Potential – Interventions and Opportunities

- Common Regional Statistical Work Programme developed and approved by Council in 2005/currently being updated;
- Resolution on Strengthening Statistical Capacity also passed by Council in 2005. This was in response to the establishment of the CSME and the increasing demands for data;
- High Level Forum convened in 2009- Action Plan for follow-up.(PARIS21/EU-funded);
- Caribbean Statistics Day/ World Statistics Day



# Potential – Interventions and Opportunities

- Efforts at promoting a strategic approach to statistics – National Strategies Development Statistics (EU/PARIS21);
- Equipment/software provision under an EU-funded ;
- Data –transmission mechanism, Organisation/management of data;
- Online Help Desk Facility – links to resources, Question & Answer, Discussion Forum etc.;



# Potential – Interventions and Opportunities

- Model Statistics Bill due to weaknesses that impact data collection, coordination;
- Review of the SCCS as a forum;
- The issue of Management has been placed on the annual CARICOM regional Statistical Seminar;
- Minimum Data Set, Activities to be Encouraged and Priority activities identified by the AGS;
- Position on Access to Microdata.

# Potential – Interventions and Opportunities

## Statistics on Trade in Services – Developmental Work

- Main problem of continuity in the availability /quantum of funds have affected the results.
- 2001/2 CIDA- Situational Assessment, Regional Workshop, Recommendations and Action Plan and Two National Workshops- Suppliers of Data, trade specialists, statisticians etc;
- 2004/5 USAID:
  - In-country technical assistance in six countries aimed at EBOPS,



# Potential – Interventions and Opportunities

## Statistics on Trade in Services – Developmental Work

*2004/5 USAID-(continued)*

- Classification- preparing regional classification for data harmonisation for TIS Statistics;
- IT infrastructure that could enable easy extraction of data from existing sources;
- Preparation of Draft Common guidelines;
- National Workshops and one Regional Workshop



# Potential – Interventions and Opportunities

## Statistics on Trade in Services – Developmental Work

- 2009/10 EU-funded (9<sup>th</sup> EDF):
  - Technical assistance to 12 countries;
  - Refinement of the Common Guidelines,
  - Regional training Workshop
  - National Stakeholders Meetings,
  - Drafting of a questionnaire to obtain more detailed data e.g. by trading partners
- Data available from approximately 6 countries at the level of the EBOPS which is the level recommended in the Manual of Statistics on International Trade in Services

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# Potential – Interventions and Opportunities

## National Accounts

- **Focus on basic source data** for national accounts/economic statistics compilation – Administrative Data and Statistical Business Register.;
- Caribbean Technical Assistance Centre has been working to improve the Supply and Use Tables and other areas
- Seminar on 2008 System of National Accounts ;
- Technical Working Group being put in place including a sub-group on classifications – TIS/NA and MT



# Way Forward

- **Funding – Continuity and quantity from partners;**
- **Support by Governments of the Region;**
- **Advocacy;**
- **Management – Strategic Planning frameworks for the NSS, which can help attract funds/managing resources;**
- **The production of statistics on CI cannot be viewed in isolation of the current workload and resource constraints of NSOs, however there is a foundation in place or being put in place that is a vital enabling factor;**



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