

MINISTRY PAPER NO: -

PREPARATION FOR THE 2012 CENSUS AND THE TOURISM SATELLITE ACCOUNT

OVERVIEW

The Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN), a statutory corporation, was established in 1984 with an amendment to the Statistics Act. The Statistics Act (the Act) sets out the functions of the Institute and the framework under which statistical information is collected, collated and disseminated to its many users while protecting the identity of the data providers. The Act also states that the information collected cannot be published in a manner that will cause any one person or company to be identified except where that data provider is a significant contributor to the economic or social well being, and where this situation exists, the consent of the data provider must first be obtained in writing before the information can be published. There are penalties under the Act for breaches of confidentiality and refusal to respond to requests for information.

The Office of the Prime Minister has portfolio responsibility for the operations of the Institute and 95% of the Institute's funding is received from the Government of Jamaica through the Consolidated Fund. The other 5% is derived from the sale of its products and services. The approved Budget for 2009/2010 is J\$585.420 million including J\$20 million allocated under Capital A for the Population Census 2011.

The major users of the information generated by the Institute are the Ministries, Departments and Agencies of the Government of Jamaica. The major stakeholders are the Office of the Prime Minister, Planning Institute of Jamaica, the Bank of Jamaica, the Ministry of Finance, the University of the West Indies, Mona and the people of Jamaica.

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2008/2009

"The Modernisation of STATIN, A Strategic Plan 2002 – 2005" articulated a vision for modernizing STATIN, and identified nine strategic areas on which to focus in order to achieve its Mission ***"To provide relevant, timely and accurate statistical information and technical services, consistent with international standards to our national and internal clients"***.

The nine strategic areas identified in the Strategic Plan are:

| Item# | Strategic Areas | Achievements to date |
|-------|--|---|
| 1. | To consolidate office operations in the Kingston and St. Andrew area in order to reduce operational costs, improve efficiency and communication within the Institute | The consolidation took place in August 2003 with the move to 7 Cecelio Avenue, Kingston 10. The operational objectives are being achieved. |
| 2. | To strengthen Human Resources in order to support operations and achieve strategic objectives | The focus has been on staff training with particular reference to the new areas of work and the in the use of the new technology tools: e.g. SAS; PMAS; and participation in seminars on statistical methodologies provided by the international and regional bodies. |

| Item# | Strategic Areas | Achievements to date |
|-------|---|---|
| 3. | To create an organization structure that is flexible and supports the work of the Institute | Work has started on the organizational restructuring. OPM has given preliminary approval to the proposed structure. The Job Descriptions are being done to facilitate the discussions with the Ministry of Finance |
| 4. | To institute a client service culture for all practices and programmes | Staff has been sensitized to a customer service orientation but no formal training has taken place. Increased public awareness and an improved image of the Institute have been achieved through consultation processes and more effective media placements. |
| 5. | To develop and implement efficient business processes | The business processes are being streamlined and effective monitoring is being done through the implementation of the Quality management System with the objective of attaining ISO 9001:2000 certification. |
| 6. | To strengthen the technology required to support systems and increase efficiency | The building is fully networked and plans are being put in place to establish a wide area network to link the Field Offices to the Corporate Office. The Data Management System (DMS) has been implemented in 5 of the 6 technical areas. The design of the 6th has commenced. The DMS is the foundation for the integration of statistical data for an e-business platform. Discussions are taking place with all Agencies for the supply of data in a digital format to remove the incidence of replication. |
| 7. | To understand the changing data requirements and to translate user needs into new products and services or enhancements to existing products and services so as to ensure that government, business and the community have the most relevant and reliable statistics on which to make informed policy decisions | The objective is to keep the statistical products current and in line with the international standards. The CPI basket has been revised with the data from the 2004 /05 HES. The National Accounts system has been converted to be in line with the SNA 1993. The Jamaica. Industrial Classifications 2005 is line with UN ISIC Rev 3. The Jamaica. Occupational Classification is being revised for completion before Census 2011. The Producer Price Index (PPI) for manufacturing & mining was launched in 2007. PPI for agriculture is being developed. |
| 8. | To strengthen the Legal Framework to support and enhance the operations of the Institute | The Ministry Paper 24/07 - <i>Assuring Integrity in Statistics</i> , was approved by Cabinet March 16, 2007 and tabled in the Houses of Parliament on May 28, 2007. The support of the World Bank TFSCB is being sought for the implementation of the programme. |
| 9. | To acquire technical assistance and funds to facilitate change and implement the modernization process | Funding has been received from: (a) IADB for the IT upgrade, the legal framework review, and the HES; BOJ for the HES; and EU through SERP for the process reviews. Technical Assistance has been received from Sida/Statistics Sweden for the upgrade of the system of national accounts and CARTAC for the revision of the CPI |

The development work associated with this plan is approximately 85% to 90% complete. A new strategic plan needs to be developed for the next five (5) years. The planning meeting was held in November 2008 and the plan is now to be prepared.

PROJECTIONS FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2009/2010

The regular statistical work programme of the Institute consists of an ongoing data collection and analysis process throughout the year and the results of which are published periodically as shown below:

| Data Collection Sources | The Products | Data Collection Frequency | Data Release Frequency |
|--|--|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Productive Sector – business establishments private & public sectors | Employment & Earnings | Quarterly | Annually |
| | Production Volume & Value | Quarterly | Annually |
| | National Income & Product | Quarterly | Annually |
| | Quarterly Gross Domestic Product | Quarterly | Quarterly |
| | Consumer Price Index (CPI) | Monthly | Monthly |
| | Producer Price Index (PPI) | Monthly | Monthly |
| Households & Individuals | Business Register | Monthly | |
| | Survey of Living Conditions | Once per year | Annually |
| | Labour Force Survey | Quarterly | Quarterly |
| | Ad Hoc Surveys – e.g. MICS; Reproductive Health; Crime Victimization Survey; etc | As and when required | |
| | Population & Housing Census | Every 10 years | |
| | Household Expenditure Survey | Every 10 years | |
| Administrative Data Sets | Agricultural Census | Every 10 years | |
| | Import and Export data | Daily | Monthly |
| | Births, deaths & marriages | Quarterly | Annually |
| | Divorces | Quarterly | Annually |
| | Immigration | Daily | Annually |
| | Data on the Environment | Annually | Annually |

During the 2009/2010 fiscal year, the work programme will focus on completing and consolidating those projects that are in progress. Demands are being made for statistics on ICT and Trade in Services. Some preliminary work has been started on the ICT statistics as part of the CARICOM development programme but resource constraints may affect the continued development.

Tourism Satellite Account 2007 for Jamaica

In 2002 Technical Cooperation Agreement was entered into with the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) for Statistics Sweden to provide STATIN with technical expertise for the modernization of the Jamaican System of National Accounts. Last October, the National Income & Product was launched in the new format that is consistent with the UN 1993 System of National Accounts, (the SNA 1993). The Tourism Satellite Account 2007 for Jamaica is another output of the Jamaican System of National Accounts. In February this year, the Ministry of Tourism and the Tourism Enhancement Fund facilitated the final mission of the Swedish Consultant who had previously conducted 3 short missions during the period 2004 to 2006.

Satellite accounts allow for the exploration of some specific parts of the national accounts, which are not shown in the standard formats of the national accounts system. The Tourism Satellite Account (TSA) measures the direct economic contribution of tourism to the domestic economy.

Population & Housing Census 2011

It is being proposed that Jamaica should conduct its fourteenth census of population and housing in early 2011. April 4, 2011 is proposed as Census Day. Jamaica has a long history of census taking dating back to the nineteenth century. The United Nations recommends that

countries conduct a census every ten years preferably with the year ending in '0'. Twentieth century censuses of Jamaica have been conducted in 1943 (regarded as the first modern exercise) 1960, 1970, 1982, 1991 and 2001. The proposed census of 2011 will be implemented within the framework established and recommended by the United Nations for the 2010 World Programme, which covers the period 2005-2014.

The Population Census is the only survey which provides a detailed picture of the entire population at a specific point in time. Among the variables tabulated and analysed in the census data are:

- information on the size, geographic distribution and demographic characteristics of the country's population;
- changing patterns of urban/rural concentration and the development of urbanized areas;
- the geographical distribution of the population by sex and age structure, education and occupation.

The fundamental purpose of the census is to provide the facts on the population that are essential to government for policymaking, planning and administration. The analysis of the results of the census is of scientific interest to researchers. Reliable estimates of consumer demand for goods and services depend on accurate information on the size, sex and age distribution of the population which are provided by the census. Population census data are the principal source of records used as sampling frames for surveys during the intercensal years.

Financial Requirements

The total costs estimated for the 4 year period 2009-2013 is \$1.3 billion with the annual allocation being:

2009/10 - \$ 19.9 million
2010/11 - \$203.3 million
2011/12 - \$ 1.1 billion
2012/13 - \$ 30.6 million

Schedule of Activities

The main activity scheduled for 2009 -2010 is mapping. Mapping is crucial to the process as the island is divided into small geographic units to facilitate data collection in a timely manner. The smallest geographic unit for which data are collected is the enumeration district (ED). The size of an ED is approximately 150 households in the urban areas and 100 in the rural areas. Each ED is designed to be of a size that will ensure an equitable workload for each interviewer. There were 5,235 EDs for the 2001 census. In preparation for the 2011 census, the mapping activities will include field work to adjust boundaries based on growth or decline in the population of areas. In such cases EDs are either merged or split. The development of the highways has impacted on boundaries of EDs and where these occur those EDs will also need to be reviewed.

The Regional Involvement

A regionally coordinated approach to census taking in the Caribbean has been an extremely well established and useful strategy for census taking for a long time. The strategy employs a uniform approach at all stages of the census exercise from the early planning through to the printing of the reports and dissemination of results. Since 1980 the regional initiative has been coordinated by CARICOM through the Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians and the Regional Census Coordinating Committee.

Census taking in Jamaica faces many challenges. Censuses are costly and increased costliness comes against the background of limited financial resources and diminishing assistance from international funding agencies. In the meantime though, there is increased pressure to produce an ever-increasing range of relevant statistics. Not to be underestimated is an apathetic public which continues to view all government's data collection efforts with suspicion and even hostility.

CONCLUSION

At this time, the Institute is faced with an expanding workload resulting from a number of factors:

- the changing structure of the economy from one dominated by agriculture and production to one where the focus is more on the provision of services; this has increased the demand for information on the new areas;
- the impact and size of the informal sector is uncertain and needs to be quantified;
- the goods and services that are being imported have increased as well as there is the need to have the data disaggregated for better analysis; and
- information is needed on a more timely basis.

The Institute is also faced with having to collect data in an environment that is becoming more challenging. Crime and violence have become major issues and the security of the staff is sometimes threatened. In addition, more individuals and businesses are not responding to the requests for data as they "do not trust the government".

Notwithstanding the challenges, there have been many gains. New statistical products continue to be developed and launched and the older products are being upgraded to be inline with the current international methodologies. The information released by the Institute is now more credible in the eyes of the public. The staff has remained motivated and is committed to the process of ***providing statistics for the nation.***