


Statistics in development policy and planning at national and regional levels

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Developing policies and plans for SIDs

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- ▶ Policy making:
 - ▶ *Translating political vision into programmes and action to produce outcomes.*
 - ▶ *Promises made in our manifesto converted into actions*

Developing policies and plans for SIDs

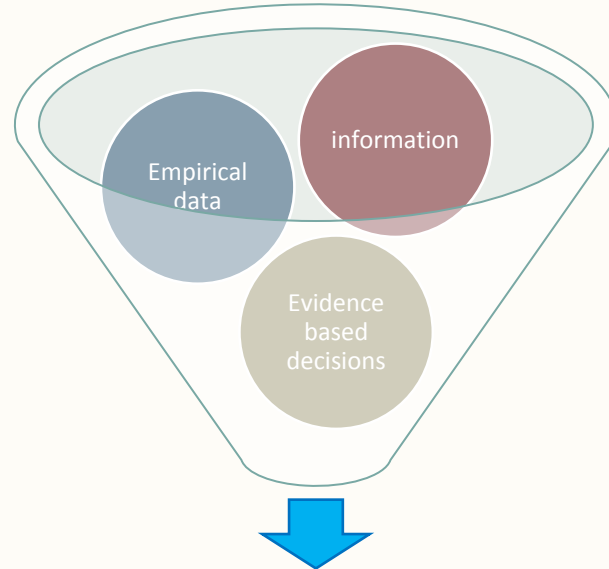


- ▶ Effective policies and policy making should be:
 - ▶ *progressive looking*
 - ▶ *outward looking*
 - ▶ *Inclusive*
 - ▶ *Use empirical data for analysis*
 - ▶ *Always be evaluated and reviewed*

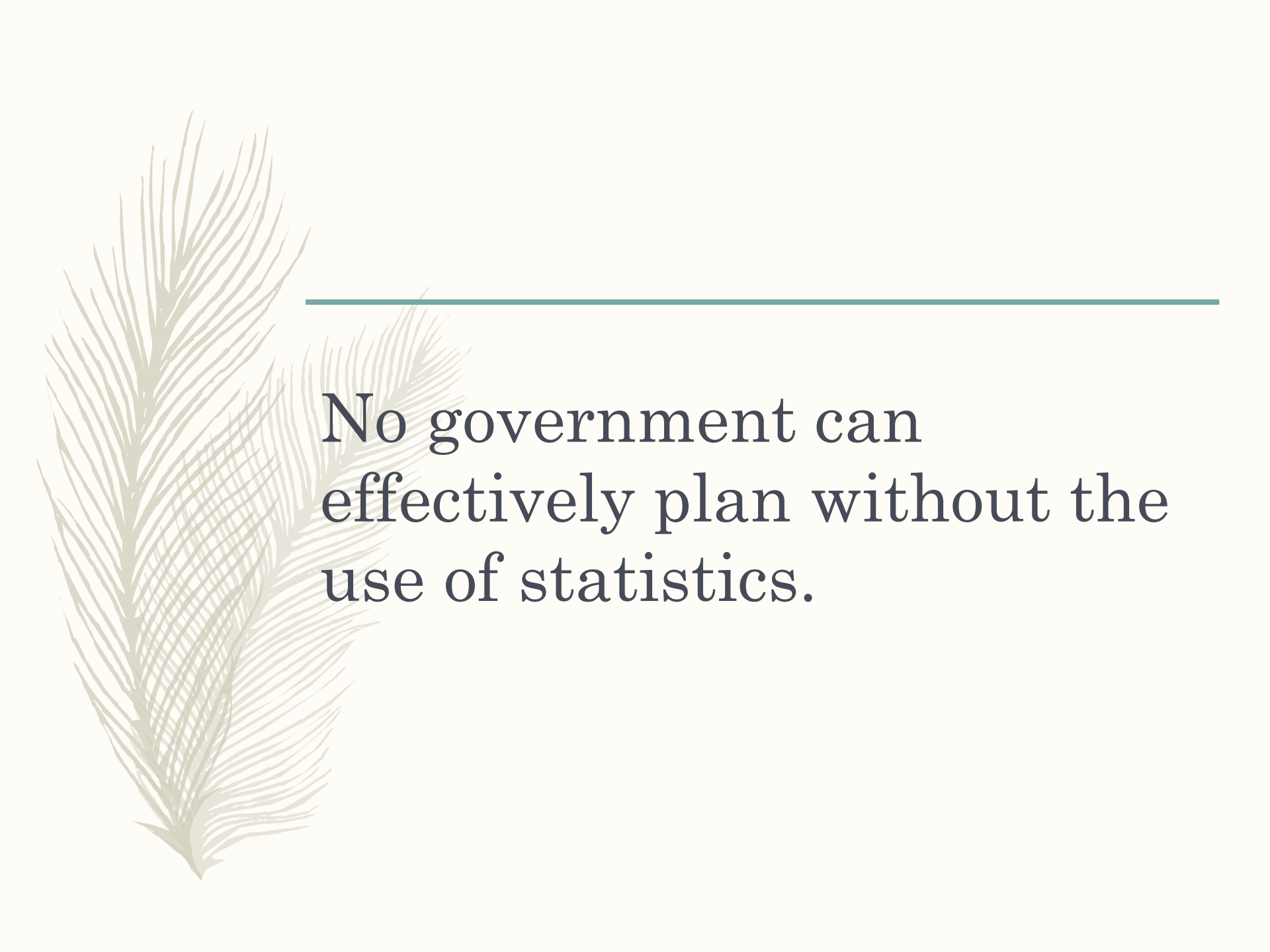
Data analysis and Interpretation: Key Essentials for policy making

Effective policy making pivots on information

Use empirical data instead of anecdotal opinions



Effective Policies



No government can
effectively plan without the
use of statistics.

Current state of data analysis in Grenada's Context

- Not analytical enough (most often its neither predictive nor prescriptive)
- Decisions still made on anecdotal opinions

- Reasons cited for not doing proper analysis:
 - Poor data quality
 - Limited Resources
 - Timescale is not sufficient
 - No metadata exist
 - Inconsistent format
 - Users unable to interpret data

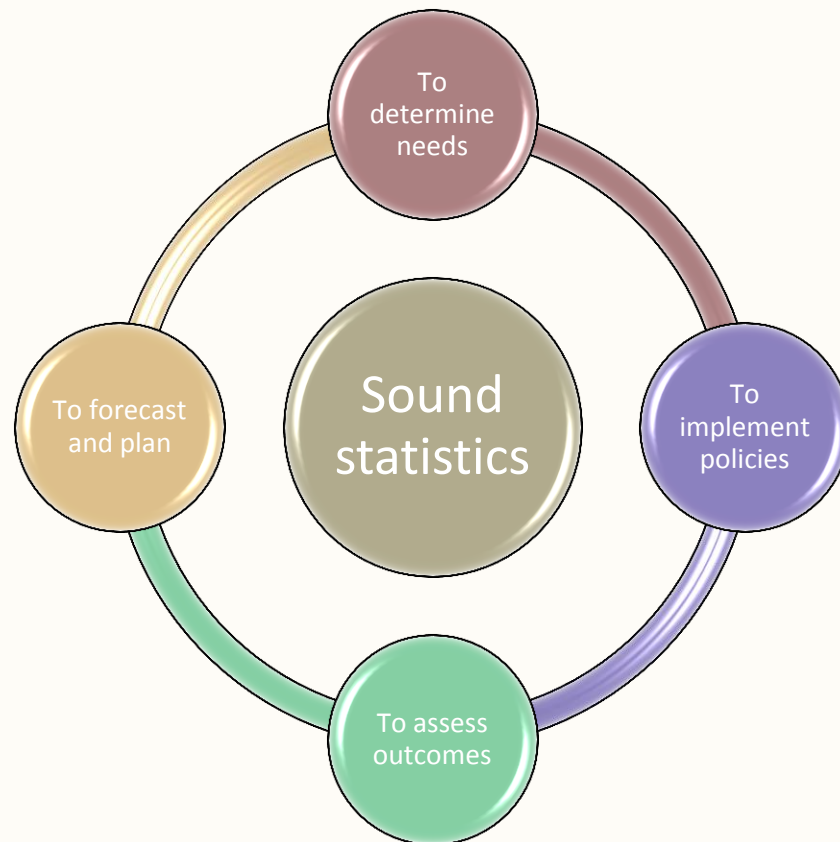
Some policy decisions are still made based on less than thorough research to satisfy speedy responses, large information gaps and political expediency



The importance of Statistics in evidence based policy making

- How well are our social safety nets doing in terms of reducing poverty?
- Are they having significant impact on our economies?
- If not how can they be tailored or reengineered to do so?
- What types of investments are needed to reduce poverty?
 - Should we direct resources to education, health, employment, or housing or a mixture of them all?
- How can we enable an environment for sustainable job creation? (not just any jobs but decent job)

The importance of Statistics in policy making



In Grenada's context.....

The Central Statistical Office is measuring :

Economic Sector

- GDP by production (annually), in future it will be measured by expenditure (GDP by expenditure project is being piloted) with TA from CARTAC/ECCB
- Balance of Payment (in collaboration with ECCB/ and TA CARTAC) and Trade statistics produced (with TA from CARICOM)
- Quarterly economic tables produced highlighting the performance of various sectors
- Plans to compile and produce quarterly GDP figures (with TA from CARTAC/STATSCAN)

Social Sector


- Annual Labour Force Survey with questions on multi-dimensional poverty (OECS, World Bank & UNDP)
- Intends to use Multi dimensional poverty (MPI) as national annual measure of Poverty (with dimensions of Health, Education, Living Standards and Employment) in collaboration with UNDP
- Transitioning from MDGS and Caribbean Specific MDGs into SDGs (in collaboration with CARICOM Secretariat)
 - *This done alongside the survey of the labour force so poverty figures can be reported annually*

Grenada's context



- The CSO has recently begun monitoring :
- The Environment with guidance from CARICOM/UNSD):
 - More recent collation of this dataset (air emissions, waste and water data)
 - Users are requesting this type of data
 - As a SIDs, climate change is a major concern

- *There is a need to include the contribution of our environment into the GDP*



Regional/national support for our statistical systems- Priorities

- Reform and restructuring our effective National Statistical System (NSS) by focusing on strengthening and empowering our Central Statistical Office(CSO).

Our main priorities:

1. In Grenada's case, the revision of the Statistical Act which is the CSO's legal diktat.
2. Coordination of the NSS
3. Increased advocacy at all levels for the importance of Statistics.
4. Build capacity and create competent human/IT resources not just in the CSO but within the NSS

Multi-level actions to improve our statistical systems

National

- Design National Strategies for the Development of Statistics-NSDS
- Identify champions for Statistics, regionally and nationally (Especially at the highest level e.g. PM & Cabinet Ministers)
- Revise and update the Statistical Act
- Allocate resources for enhancing the NSOs
- Train and build capacity for statistical analysis
- Need for Advocacy: Advisory groups and statistics websites


Regional

- Design Regional Strategies to Develop Statistics (RSDS)
- Ensure regional stakeholders collaborate and coordinate
- Develop regional centers of excellence to develop out statisticians
- Regional statistical system (RSS) must support national statistical systems (NSS)
- Advocate at the highest level e.g. CARICOM heads of government, Council of Ministers, ECCB Monetary Council, OECS Head of government

International

- Greater collaboration and coordination among International Development Partners (IDPs) to avoid duplication of resources and unnecessary pressure on National Statistical Offices (NSOs)
- Funding needed to finance NSDS and RSDS implementation
- Technical Assistance

Finally....our impetus is always....



Reliable,
Relevant,
timely, accurate,
comparable,
Statistics



Sound, effective
evidence-based
policies, plans
and decisions



Better lives
and standard
of living- A
Brighter
future for all!