

Stats M shares its experience on water accounts in a regional workshop in Mauritius

The United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) in partnership with the Division of Sustainable Development, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the World Bank organized a workshop on water statistics and accounts at la Plantation Hotel in Mauritius from 8 to 10 May 2013.

The main objective of the workshop was to support the regular production of water statistics and accounts for putting in place integrated environmental information systems in the participating countries namely: Botswana, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

On this occasion the draft water accounts prepared by Stats M was used extensively in the discussions and stimulated a productive dialogue among the participants whose countries are at different levels in the development of water accounts.



AfDB funds Statistical Capacity Building in Mauritius

Mauritius is participating in the Statistical Capacity Building Program of the African Development Bank (AfDB). Vice-Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Hon X. L. Duval signed an agreement to that effect with AfDB in December 2011.

The aim of the program is to, among others, improve economic and social policy evaluation and decision-making through the enhancement of data collection, processing and dissemination.

To date, Stats M has received funding for the following:

- Purchase of tablet PCs for the conduct of the Survey of Incoming and Outgoing tourists;
- Development of a user-friendly and interactive data portal;
- Setting up of a Statistical Business Register;
- Development of Infrastructure Statistics; and
- Price collection activities for the International Comparison Program for Africa.

Other activities in the pipeline are:

- Purchase of tablet PCs for the Continuous Multipurpose Household Survey (CMPHS) and price collection; and
- Hiring of services for implementing recommendations of Statistics Board committees on *Quality of Life indicators* and *Data Dissemination and Advocacy of Statistics*.



Errors, Omissions and Anomalies Committee (EOAC) Report on the PRB Report 2013

Government has agreed to the recommendations of the Committee set up to look into the errors, omissions and alleged anomalies of the 2013 PRB Report.

Main issues relevant for Stats M are:

- The effective date of implementation of the Report would be 01 January 2013;
- Arrears for the period 01 January to 30 June 2013 would be paid in July 2013;
- A provision would be made available for the payment of the productivity bonus in line with the PBB;
- The annual increment would be performance-related; and
- The post of Statistician would henceforth be filled from among qualified officers in the grade of Senior Statistical Officer and Principal Statistical Officer instead of by public advertisement to outside candidates. In the absence of qualified serving officers in Stats M, selection would be made from candidates possessing the required qualifications.

Stats M recruits Census and Survey Assistants

Following difficulties to obtain staff to assist in its censuses and surveys, Stats M proceeded with the recruitment of Census and Survey Assistants as from May 2013.

The Census and Survey Assistants are being recruited on contract for an initial period of one year, renewable for another period of one year subject to satisfactory performance. To date, eight such staff have been recruited and are posted in the Continuous Multipurpose Household Survey unit and at the Stats Unit of the Ministry of Tourism and Leisure. Two other candidates are expected to join the office on 08 July 2013.