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FOR INFORMATION

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TITLE: State of ICT Statistics Collection and Dissemination – JAMAICA– February 2009

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State of ICT Statistics Collection and Dissemination
JAMAICA– February 2009

Background

As Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) emerge as engines for social and economic growth globally, Jamaica has recognized the need to monitor and evaluate the growth and impact of ICTs on its economic and social development.

Government agencies engaged in planning and development and in the regulation of the utilities have led the demand for data to monitor and evaluate the impact of Jamaica's growing ICT sector. In addition, there is need for data to formulate the policies and strategies that will support ICT-enabled growth of the economy.

One critical component of Jamaica's recently formulated 2030 National Development Plan is the initiative to develop the ICT sector. In April 2007, a taskforce was established to focus specifically on the long-term development of the ICT sector in Jamaica.

It has therefore become necessary for data producers to begin work on the production of ICT statistics in order to supply the Government and people of Jamaica with data for planning and evaluation and for monitoring the development and impact of the ICT sector.

Jamaica's involvement with the measurement of the Information Society began in 2004 when the Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN) participated in a workshop on "*Measuring the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean"* hosted by the Observatory for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (OSILAC). STATIN participated in the sequel to the 2004 workshop on measurement of ICT In 2005.

As part of the regional effort to produce statistics on the ICT Sector in the Caribbean Community, (CARICOM) an ICT Subcommittee on Statistics was formed in October 2007, and Jamaica has been involved in the regional initiative to:-

- formulate a definition of the scope of the ICT sector,
- identify a set of ICT indicators that are pertinent to the region and to
- identify the emerging issues related to the development of ICT statistics in the region.

ICT Data Sources and Statistics

Currently, data resides in several public and private agencies including the Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN), the Office of Utilities Regulation (OUR), the Broadcasting Commission as well as individual utility companies.

Primary Data Sources

In the production of ICT statistics, Jamaica is guided by the list of Core ICT Indicators of the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development, covering the following:-

- ICT Infrastructure and Access
- Use of and Access to ICTs by Households and Individuals
- Use of ICT by Businesses and;
- Employment in ICT, ICT Value Added and Trade in ICT goods.

In an effort to generate data for calculating some of the basic core indicators, the National Statistical Office, STATIN, has included ICT questions in two household based surveys, namely:

- The Annual Survey of Living Conditions
- The 2001 Population and Housing Census. (See Attachment)

The questions are limited to collecting data from households on *access* to selected ICTs. No data have been collected from individuals or households on the *use* of ICTs. Data regarding ICT use in businesses or employment in the ICT Sector are not currently being captured in any surveys administered by STATIN.

Total Value Added in the ICT sector although not currently available in the GDP estimates can be derived by disaggregating the estimates. By isolating the ICT-related activities included under the Manufacturing and Services sectors in the national industrial classification, "JIC 2005" which is based on the 3rd revision of the International Standard Industrial Classification ISIC Rev 3 it is possible to derive an estimate of the contribution of the Information and Communication technology sector to total value added. Further work in this area is required however especially in light of the modifications made to the definition of the ICT sector by the Organization for Economic Corporation and Development (OECD) following the release of the fourth revision of the International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC Rev4).

STATIN compiles import and export trade statistics for Jamaica. However, trade in ICT goods is not currently being compiled. It will be necessary to examine the international classification of ICT goods and extract from the available trade data, ICT goods imports

as a percentage of total imports. This would generate statistics on at least one core indicator on ICT goods trade.

Secondary Data Sources

Administrative sources of ICT data include:-

- the Office of Utilities Regulation (OUR),
- the Broadcasting Commission and
- Local cable and utility companies.

These sources have not been explored in order to determine which core or extended core indicators can be derived from the available datasets. Data from these repositories will have to be furthered investigated.

The production of selected core ICT statistics has been incorporated in STATIN's 2009/2010 work Plan and it is expected that funding will be obtained during the 09/10 financial year to begin a programme that will analyse all existing sources of ICT data in house and commence the calculation of some core ICT indicators. In the ensuing years, the work plan will be expanded to include the capture of additional ICT data both from primary and secondary sources as well as the computation of additional indicators.

Capacity Building

There is a need for significant capacity building and training in the measurement of the Information Society at the national statistical office. Resources required include:

- Staff to review available Primary and Secondary sources of data.
- Equipment to facilitate the analysis and evaluation of available data.
- Training in ICT methodologies, measurement and data presentation.
- Funding to initiate data collection in some areas, (particularly from establishments) and to support the expansion of data collection on ICTs. It is expected that funding of the 2011 Census will support a module, or extended questions on access to and use of ICTs by Jamaican households.

STATIN is committed to partnering with national and regional and international stakeholders to create a comprehensive body of statistics on the ICT sector. The centralization and harmonization of data, methodologies and indicators will serve to improve the quality and quantity of ICT statistics available to our national regional and international partners.

EFFORTS ON MEASURING STATISTICS IN ICT – REPORT ON DATA AVAILABILITY AND SOURCES AS AT JANUARY 2009

Country Name: JAMAICA

ICT Infrastructure and Access				
UN Core Indicators	**Data Items/Indicators**	**Data Sources**	**Frequency of Availability**	**Remarks**
A1	1. Fixed telephone lines per 100 inhabitants	Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN) – Census	10 yrs	Indicators that require the computation of rates per 100 inhabitants are obtained from the decennial Population and Housing Census of Jamaica. Questions related to these ICT indicators were first included in Census 2001.
A2	2. Mobile cellular subscribers per 100 inhabitants	Office of Utilities Regulation (OUR)		
A3	3. Computers per 100 inhabitants	STATIN – Census	10 yrs	
A4	4. Internet subscribers per 100 inhabitants	STATIN – Census	10 yrs	
A5	5. Broadband Internet subscribers per 100 inhabitants	OUR		Discussions are to be held with the Office of Utilities Regulation and other telecommunications service providers about the supply of data for the computation of indicators related to ICT Infrastructure and Access
A6	6. International Internet bandwidth per inhabitant	OUR		
A7	7. Percentage of population covered by mobile cellular telephony	OUR		
A8	8. Internet access tariffs (20 hours per month), in US$, and as a percentage of *per capita* income	OUR		
A9	9. Mobile cellular tariffs (100 minutes of use per month), in US$, and as a percentage of *per capita* income	OUR		

Access to and Use of ICT by Households and Individuals				
UN Core Indicators	**Data Items/Indicators**	**Data Sources**	**Frequency of Availability**	**Remarks**
HH1	10. Proportion of households with a radio	STATIN – Survey of Living Conditions (SLC)	Annually	Since 2004, the annual Survey of Living Conditions has captured data for the computation of 7 ICT Indicators in this group. The survey is designed to facilitate more in-depth study on pre-determined topics through the attachment of extended data modules. The SLC is a vehicle that could facilitate more in-depth study on the ICT sector among Jamaican households.
HH2	11. Proportion of households with a TV	STATIN - SLC	Annually	
HH3	12. Proportion of households with a fixed line telephone	STATIN – SLC	Annually	
HH4	13. Proportion of households with a mobile cellular telephone	STATIN – SLC	Annually	
HH5	14. Proportion of households with a computer	STATIN – SLC	Annually	
HH7	15. Proportion of households with Internet access at home	STATIN – SLC	Annually	
HHR1 – Reference Indicator	16. Proportion of households with electricity	STATIN – Census, SLC	10 years, Annually	
The ICT Sector and Trade in ICT Goods				
ICT3	17. ICT goods imports as a percentage of total imports	STATIN	Annually	Data are available on imports (and exports). The indicators can be developed in accordance with the list of ICT goods classified by SITC codes that is now available.
ICT4	18. ICT goods exports as a percentage of total exports	STATIN	Annually	
Use of ICT by Businesses				
Data to compile Indicators on ICT use by businesses (UN Core Indicators B1-B8) are not yet available. A special business survey would be required to obtain benchmark data.				