



**SUBREGIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP ON THE ANTIGUA AND  
BARBUDA AGENDA FOR SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES (ABAS) AND ITS  
MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E) FRAMEWORK**

**ANNOTATED AGENDA**

*As of 17 December 2025*

**Date:** 15-17 December 2025

**Venue:** Georgetown, Guyana

**Language:** English

**Organizers:** UNDESA (United Nations Statistics Division and Division for Sustainable Development Goals), ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean, and CARICOM Secretariat

**DAY 1: SETTING THE STAGE FOR THE ABAS IMPLEMENTATION IN THE  
CARIBBEAN**

**08:30-09:00**      **Registration**

**09:00-09:30**      **Welcome and opening remarks**

Moderator: **Halim Brizan**, Director Regional Statistics, CARICOM Secretariat

Speakers :

- **Shantanu Mukherjee**, Acting Director, United Nations Statistics Division UN DESA (virtual)
- **Miosotis Rivas-Peña**, Director, ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean
- **Dhiraj Singh**, UN Resident Coordinator a.i. and OIC, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- **Armstrong Alexis**, Deputy Secretary General, CARICOM Secretariat
- **Maxine Bentt**, Deputy Chief Statistician, Bureau of Statistics, Guyana

**09:30-09:40**

**Photo session**

**09:40-10:00**

**Introduction of participants**

Moderator: **Halim Brizan**, Director Regional Statistics, CARICOM Secretariat

**10:00-11:00**

**Session 1: Revisiting the Outcome Document of the Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States**

Moderator: **Yongyi Min**, Acting Chief, Development Data and Outreach Branch, UNDESA/Statistics Division

This session provides participants with an overview of the Outcome Document of the Fourth International Conference on SIDS, the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS). It highlights a few of its key deliverables, in particular the SIDS Center of Excellence with its global data hub and Debt Sustainability Support Service, the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index with its heavy data requirements, and the mandate for developing an ABAS Monitoring & Evaluation Framework. This grounding ensures that all subsequent discussions build on a common conceptual foundation.

- ABAS and its Outcome Document: **Anya Thomas**, Economic Affairs Officer, UNDESA
- The SIDS Center of Excellence: **Andrena Athill-DaSouza**, Communications and Outreach Advisor, SIDS Centre of Excellence and **Ritu Bharadwaj**, Director, Climate Resilience, Finance and Loss and Damage, International Institute for Environment & Development (IIED) (Virtual)
- The Multidimensional Vulnerability Index: **Anya Thomas**, Economic Affairs Officer, UNDESA
- Lessons from the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway:
  - **Amrikha Singh**, Programme Manager Sustainable Development, CARICOM Secretariat
  - **Abdullahi Abdulkadri**, Coordinator, Statistics and Social Development Unit, ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean
  - **Karen Cabrall**, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Antigua & Barbuda and **Joy-Marie King**, Director of Trade, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Antigua and Barbuda
- Open discussions

**11:00-11:30**

**Coffee break**

**11:30-12:30**

**Session 2: Operationalization of the Caribbean SIDS Mechanism for Sustainable Development**

Moderator: **Halim Brizan**, Director Regional Statistics, CARICOM Secretariat

This session explains the purpose and structure of the Caribbean SIDS Mechanism for Sustainable Development, which was established in 2020 by the Caribbean Development Cooperation Committee (CDCC) as the successor of the CDCC Regional Coordinating Mechanism as the Caribbean SIDS Mechanism for Sustainable Development. The session will highlight progress made in operationalizing this mechanism and how it can support countries in implementing ABAS. Participants will explore institutional arrangements required for the mechanism to function effectively and how it ties into the biennial review mandated by ABAS and CDCC Resolution 112. Participants will gain clarity on how the mechanism can be integrated into existing national systems.

Progress in the Implementation of the Caribbean SIDS Mechanism for Sustainable Development – **Abdullahi Abdulkadri**, Coordinator, Statistics and Social Development Unit, ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean

Respondents :

- **Travis Sinckler**, Director, Caribbean Learning Nexus Project, The University of West Indies, Cavehill Campus
- **Jeanel Volney**, Sustainable Development and Environment Officer, Sustainable Development and Environment Division, Department of Sustainable Development, Saint Lucia
- **Kennethia Douglas**, Senior Programme Manager for Sustainable Development, Technical Co-operation Unit, Ministry of Planning, Economic Affairs and Development, Trinidad and Tobago (virtual)

**12:30–14:00**

**Lunch**

**14:00-15:20**

**Session 3: Leveraging existing national mechanisms for ABAS implementation (ECLAC, member States)**

Moderator: **Anya Thomas**, Economic Affairs Officer, UNDESA

This session examines how countries can utilize and strengthen existing national and global mechanisms and intergovernmental coordination structures to support ABAS implementation. It encourages countries to identify synergies and reduce reporting burdens by aligning ABAS with ongoing national and international processes. Presentations on national and global experiences will be followed by discussions focused on lessons learned in implementing existing mechanisms, highlighting how country experiences will help illustrate practical models for integrated implementation.

- National Development Planning Framework: **Peisha Bryan-Lee**, Programme Director, Vision 2030 Jamaica Secretariat, Planning Institute of Jamaica
- National SDG Mechanisms and the VNR process: **Juan Pawiroredjo**, Deputy Permanent Secretary, International Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and Cooperation, Suriname
- National Roadmaps for Building Resilience and SDG Acceleration, **Andrea Andrew**, UN Country Coordination Officer, UN Resident Coordinator Office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean
- Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) mechanism: **Jason Williams**, NDC/LT-LEDS Regional Specialist, Regional Collaboration Centre for the Caribbean, UNFCCC
- SIDS NFP mechanism and ABAS toolkit: **Elena Cutmore**, Associate Expert, SIDS Team UN-OHRLLS
- Sharing of country experiences and open discussions

**15:20-15:40**

**Coffee break**

**15:40-17:00**

**Session 4: Towards a workplan for early implementation of ABAS**

Session lead: **Abdullahi Abdulkadri** Coordinator, Statistics and Social Development Unit, ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean

This interactive session will be conducted as group discussions of member States and the UN system, aimed at mapping out country representatives' ideas of immediate steps for activating the ABAS workplan at the national level and the UN system's perspectives on support mechanisms available for implementation and reporting at the regional and global levels. It provides an interactive space for participants to distill priority actions, identify responsible stakeholders, and outline milestones for early implementation in a peer-learning environment. Each Group will nominate a Rapporteur who will present the group's workplan during Session 10 on Day 3.

**DAY 2: UNDERSTANDING THE ABAS M&E FRAMEWORK AND DATA AVAILABILITY IN SIDS**

**09:00-09:10**

**Recap of Day 1**

Presenter: **Abdullahi Abdulkadri**, Coordinator, Statistics and Social Development Unit, ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean

**09:10-9:40**

**Session 5: Development of the ABAS M&E framework**

Moderator: **Abdullahi Abdulkadri**, Coordinator, Statistics and Social Development Unit, ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean

This session introduces the structure, indicators, and methodological foundations of the ABAS M&E Framework finalized in June 2025 and endorsed by the General Assembly in November 2025. It explains how the framework aligns with the SDGs, SAMOA Pathway, and other global reporting systems while minimizing additional burdens on SIDS. Participants will gain a clear understanding of the framework's logic and reporting expectations.

Presenters:

- The ABAS M&E framework – a political perspective: **Anya Thomas**, Economic Affairs Officer, UNDESA
- The ABAS M&E framework – a technical perspective: **Yongyi Min**, Acting Chief, Development Data and Outreach Branch, UNDESA/Statistics Division (10 minutes)
- Open discussions

**09:40-10:50**

**Session 6: Progress assessment and data availability the SDG Indicator Framework, the CARICOM Core SDG Indicators, and country experiences**

Moderator: **Yongyi Min**, Acting Chief, Development Data and Outreach Branch, UNDESA/Statistics Division

This session reviews both progress assessment and current data landscape in the Caribbean through the lens of SDG indicators, CARICOM Core Indicators, and national indicator frameworks. Presenters will discuss SDG progress and setbacks as well as data gaps, methodological challenges, and opportunities for strengthening statistical capacity. The session sets the stage for understanding how the ABAS M&E Framework can build on existing reporting infrastructures.

Presenters:

- **Sokunpanha You**, Associate Statistician, Statistics Division, UNDESA
- **Halim Brizan**, Director Regional Statistics, CARICOM Secretariat
- **Sherma Beroo**, Project Manager, Office of the Director General, Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States Commission
- **Hope Naomi Perkins**, Statistician, Statistical Institute of Jamaica
- **Anjali De Abreu-Kisoensingh**, Scientific Research and Planning Division, General Bureau of Statistics, Suriname
- Open discussions

**10:50-11:10**

**Coffee break**

**11:10-12:30**

**Session 7: Leveraging national and regional reporting processes, statistical plans, and coordination for ABAS reporting**

Moderator: **Yongyi Min**, Acting Chief, Development Data and Outreach Branch, UNDESA/Statistics Division

This session explores how existing reporting processes can be leveraged to support ABAS reporting. Countries will share experiences in establishing their national statistical systems through the development and implementation of the NSDS, as well as upgrading and modernizing their national statistical offices. These initiatives will demonstrate how national efforts can be aligned to ensure timely annual reporting by integrating the ABAS M&E framework into national data flows. The CARICOM Secretariat will also highlight the regional coordination mechanisms that can support the monitoring framework. Thus, the discussion will emphasize localization and practical approaches to integrating ABAS within established reporting cycles. The session will focus on:

- Aligning coordination mechanisms with ABAS M&E framework and data flows
- Linking the ABAS framework to other global and regional monitoring frameworks
- Sharing of country experiences
- Using the VNR process to showcase ABAS progress

Presenters:

- Presentation on the Regional Mechanisms: **Halim Brizan**, Director Regional Statistics, CARICOM Secretariat
- Presentation on the NSDS: **Karina Cázarez**, Policy Analyst - Climate Change, PARIS21 (virtual)
- **Jamiko Deleveaux**, Managing Director, Bahamas National Statistical Institute,
- **Eliezer Chi**, Senior Statistical Officer, Statistical Institute of Belize
- **Miranda Biroo**, Statistician, Central Statistical Office, St. Lucia
- Presentation on the VNR process: **Sokunpanha You**, Associate Statistician, Statistics Division, UNDESA
- Open discussions

**12:30–14:00**

**Lunch**

**14:00–15:40**

**Session 8: Data ecosystems, sources, and initiatives to improve data availability in the Caribbean**

Moderator: **Sokunpanha You**, Associate Statistician, Statistics Division, UNDESA

This session looks into how to build comprehensive data ecosystems to improve data availability for ABAS and SDG indicators. It aims to broaden participants' understanding of the whole data ecosystems and practical methods for integrating non-traditional data into national systems. The session also highlights regional and global initiatives, tools, and technical assistance opportunities that can help Caribbean SIDS strengthen data availability for ABAS indicators.

- AI's applications in official statistics: **Amilina Kipkeeva**, Associate Expert, UN Economic Commission for Europe (virtual)
- Surveys in Small Island Developing States: **Martina De Saverio**, Associate Expert, UNDESA/Statistics Division (virtual)
- Leveraging administrative data to support the implementation of the SIDS Development Agenda: **Martina De Saverio**, Associate Expert, UNDESA/Statistics Division (virtual)
- Integrating citizen data for impact: **Yongyi Min**, Acting Chief, Development Data and Outreach Branch, UNDESA/Statistics Division
- Geospatial data and the SDGs Geospatial Roadmap: **Guillaume Le Sourd**, Geospatial Information Officer, UNDESA/Statistics Division (virtual)
- Data innovations for decision-making: **Faryal Ahmed**, Statistician, UNDESA/Statistics Division (virtual)
- Open discussions

**15:40-16:00**

**Coffee break**

**16:00-17:00**

**Plenary 1: Group discussion**

Session Lead: **Halim Brizan**, Director Regional Statistics, CARICOM Secretariat

This plenary provides an open space for participants to seek clarification on the ABAS M&E Framework, indicator methodologies, institutional arrangements, and data-related discussions from the morning sessions. It allows countries to raise practical questions about integrating the framework into national development reporting systems, leveraging existing reporting processes, and addressing data gaps.

Suggested discussion questions:

1. **Assessing Capacity Needs:** What support would strengthen your national statistical office's or planning agency's ability to implement the ABAS M&E Framework? Consider capacity building, data tools, partnerships, technical assistance, or other needs.

2. **Identifying Synergies and Gaps:** Which elements of the ABAS framework align well with your country's national development reporting system? Where do you see gaps or challenges?
3. **Data Governance and Innovation:** Integrating non-traditional data sources into official statistics requires strong data governance frameworks. What challenges has your country encountered in this area, and what solutions or partnerships might help overcome them?

### **DAY 3: PREPARING FOR REPORTING ON THE ABAS M&E FRAMEWORK AND WAY FORWARD**

**09:00-09:10**

#### **Recap of Day 2**

Presenter: **Anya Thomas**, Economic Affairs Officer, UNDESA

**09:10-10:10**

#### **Session 9: Building political will and stakeholder buy-in**

Moderator: **Amrikha Singh**, Programme Manager Sustainable Development CARICOM Secretariat

This session focuses on the importance of senior-level commitment and whole-of-government engagement for successful ABAS implementation. It provides strategies for mobilizing political support, aligning ABAS with national priorities, and building coalitions across ministries, statistical systems, and development partners. Strong political will is essential for institutionalizing the ABAS M&E Framework.

The session will commence with a quick overview by the moderator following which the panelists will be invited to reflect and respond to specific questions

- **Miosotis Rivas-Peña**, Director, ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean
- **Peisha Bryan-Lee**, Programme Director, Vision 2030 Jamaica Secretariat, Planning Institute of Jamaica
- **Travis Sinckler**, Programme Director, Caribbean Learning Nexus Project, The University of West Indies, Cavehill Campus
- **Ms Kira Deane**, Data Management and Reporting Officer , UN Resident Coordinator Office Barbados and the OECS

Key Questions to panelists

1. Based on your extensive experience what are some of strategies that can be deployed to engage local, Ministers and High-level representatives and international level to support implementation activities

2. In terms of utilisng national mechanisms- should this be formal or informal? Eg. Do we add it to the the work of an existing Technical Advisory Group?
3. Can you share for your organisation what are some of the opportunities for building political will around the ABAS?
4. How can we mobilise civil society and the citizenry to advocate for the issues thereby acting as a push factor?
5. In your view at the five-year review of the ABAS what will success or being on the right track to success look like?
6. What support is required of the international development community

**10:10-10:40**

**Coffee break**

**10:40-12:30**

**Session 10:** Roadmaps and action plans for ABAS M&E framework implementation

This session will feature feedback from the group discussions held in Session 4 and on Day 2: Towards a workplan for early implementation of ABAS. It will facilitate brainstorming on how countries can outline national roadmaps for implementing the ABAS M&E framework, including timelines, responsibilities, resource needs, and alignment with existing planning tools. It will also help identify priority areas for technical assistance and regional cooperation. The session will assist countries in making concrete next steps for national-level implementation starting in 2026.

**12:30–14:00**

**Lunch**

**14:00 – 15:30**

**Plenary 2: Q&A and takeaways**

Session lead: **Halim Brizan**, Director Regional Statistics, CARICOM Secretariat

This plenary synthesizes the workshop’s key insights, enabling participants to reflect collectively on lessons learned and identify priority next steps for ABAS implementation and reporting. It offers a structured opportunity for countries to discuss takeaways from the SDG and SAMOA Pathway reporting experience and translate these into actionable approaches for ABAS. The session will help consolidate shared understanding and inform development of national roadmaps and workplans.

Suggested discussion questions:

1. What are the top three lessons from SDG or SAMOA Pathway reporting that your country intends to apply to ABAS reporting?
2. What immediate next steps (political directorate, institutional arrangements, interagency coordination) should your country take in the next 3–6 months to prepare for ABAS reporting in 2026?
3. What technical areas (e.g data production and dissemination, indicator methodologies and computation etc.) need to be strengthened first?
4. How can regional partners and the UN System (CARICOM, ECLAC, DESA, agencies) better support your country going forward?

**15:30-15:50**

**Coffee break**

**15:50-16:10**

**Feedback from participants in a survey**

Moderator: **Sokunpanha You**, Associate Statistician, Statistics Division, UNDESA

**16:10-16:30**

**Next Steps and Closing remarks**

Moderator: **Sokunpanha You**, Associate Statistician, Statistics Division, UNDESA UNDESA

- **Miosotis Rivas-Peña**, Director, ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean
- **Anya Thomas**, Economic Affairs Officer, SIDS Unit, UNDESA
- **Halim Brizan**, Director Regional Statistics, CARICOM Secretariat

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