EXPERIENCE OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO IN MONITORING THE SDGs
BACKGROUND

- Trinidad and Tobago prepared its first VNR in 2020
- Coordinated by the Ministry of Planning and Development with Central Statistical Office (CSO)
- Two independent consultants worked with the VNR team.
SCOPE OF VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW

- Report focused on 8 of the 17 Goals in the SDG framework
Goals selected were informed by several factors including:

- Goal aligned to the national development planning framework: *National Development Strategy (NDS) 2016-2030, Vision 2030*;
- Data availability to support evidence-based reporting; and
- Setting realistic goals for the country’s first VNR.
**DECISIONS TAKEN**

- Restrict SDG reporting to CARICOM Core Indicators for SDGs - 109 unique indicators.
- Only official national statistics were used to compile the report i.e. data prepared by the CSO or recognized by the CSO/government as official statistics.
KEY CHALLENGES

❖ CSO had not commenced formally compiling SDG data prior to the VNR process.

❖ Identifying and coordinating collection of data is a lengthy process that requires dedicated resources.
KEY CHALLENGES CONT’D

❖ Data identified as available during data assessment exercises are often not *readily available* when requested.

❖ Data collected via paper-based administrative records are often difficult to incorporate into the process based on limited timeframe.
GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

❖ The same data are often available from multiple sources.

❖ Non-traditional data sources, not previously contemplated by the CSO were consulted, e.g., Bankers Association (8.10.1 and 8.10.2).

❖ Difficulty in obtaining disaggregated data to meet defined reporting requirements.
OUTCOMES

- 62 percent of the targeted 109 unique indicators were produced.
- Exercise provided a good benchmark with respect to data gaps as well as a comprehensive mapping of indicators to data sources/providers.
- Provided baseline and roadmap for follow up actions to promote and sustain future reporting on SDGs at the national and sub-national levels.
THANK YOU