



## Background

- The informal sector represents a fundamental component of the economic structure of many developing countries;
- Is a key form of the organization of production, provider of employment and income opportunities in both rural and urban areas;
- It accounts for over 50% of non-agricultural employment and nearly 30% of non-agricultural GDP in many developing countries;



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## Objectives

- The Project aims to: improve data on informal sector and on informal employment to promote evidence-based social policies;
- improve national capacity to produce more comprehensive data on GDP and employment (especially for women);
- contribute towards monitoring a range of MDGs and Targets (e.g. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger and Promote gender equality and empower women);



## Objectives (Cont'd)

- Improve existing MDG indicators related to poverty and women's economic participation;
- Facilitate the development of more adequate measures of gender equality and women's economic empowerment.



## Outputs

- Advocacy: raise awareness and facilitate more regular funding for statistical activities related to the informal sector and informal employment; also, contribute to a durable, self-sustaining upgrade of the national statistical system:
- Statistical capacity building: improve capacity to collect data on the informal sector and informal employment, and to compile more comprehensive estimates of GDP:
- Data collection: To increase the number of countries that regularly collect statistics on the informal sector and informal employment, and integrate these estimates in the compilation of their National Accounts



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## Outputs (Cont'd)

- Data analysis and dissemination: To improve national technical capacity in the use and dissemination of statistics on the informal sector and informal employment;
- Knowledge management: To promote knowledge sharing in building national technical capacity - both within project countries and beyond:



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## Achievements

1. Completion of a 1-2 survey of the informal sector in Saint Lucia; production of estimates on the size of the informal sector as well as its contribution to GDP
2. Provision of training to statisticians from 8 Caribbean Countries on the use of the 1-2 survey methodology for conducting a survey of the informal sector
3. Raising awareness through advocacy and other fora of the value of measuring informality in the region



## Conclusion

- Urgent need for international focus on key challenges with the '1-2' methodology;
- Concerns expressed about the sampling reliability;
- Length and 'wordy-ness' of the questionnaire;
- Source of future funding



# THANK YOU

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