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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STATISTICAL INSTITUTE OF BELIZE CELEBRATES CARIBBEAN STATISTICS DAY

Belmopan City, October 15th, 2024 – The Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB) is pleased to celebrate the 16th anniversary of Caribbean Statistics Day on October 15th under the theme "Improving Lives Through Statistics: Strengthening and Innovating Together." This theme underscores our commitment to generating high-quality, objective, and timely information to support informed decision-making and strategic planning, contributing to Belize's sustainable development through data-driven insights. The aim of the training was to enhance understanding of the MPI and build capacity in using it as a tool MPI for policy development. The training utilized shared country experiences to demonstrate the practical application of the MPI in formulating policies.

In observance of Caribbean Statistics Day, the SIB has organized a week of activities to raise awareness of the critical role of data in Belize's progress. The activities include:

• Tuesday, October 15th:

The week begins with an exhibition at the University of Belize Gymnasium in Belmopan. This exhibition will showcase a wide range of statistics produced by the SIB and other national data-producing agencies, highlighting the breadth of information available to support informed decision-making.

· Wednesday, October 16th:

An open course will be held for students at the University of Belize, focusing on the practical application of statistical tools. This session aims to equip future data users and statisticians with the knowledge and skills to utilize data effectively in their academic and professional endeavors.

Thursday, October 17th:

A webinar will be held focusing on the SIB's data production processes and highlighting ongoing and upcoming surveys. This session will provide a comprehensive overview of how our data can be used as a valuable resource for addressing Belize's most pressing challenges.

• Friday, October 18th:

The week concludes with a Statistical Data Users Conference, focusing on the use of data for policy-making and research, as well as exploring the future of data in relation to innovations in production, dissemination and use. This event will bring together key stakeholders from the government, private sector, academia, and development partners to discuss the evolving role of statistics in research and policy-making.

We invite everyone to participate in the week's events and learn more about the vital contributions of statistics to national and regional development.

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