



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BNSS PARTNERS COMPLETE TRAINING ON BELIZE'S QUALITY ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK FOR OFFICIAL STATISTICS

Belmopan City, August 13, 2026 – The Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB) held a one-day training session on the Belize National Statistical System (BNSS) Quality Assurance Framework (QAF) on August 13, 2026, at the Roaring River Golf Course in Roaring Creek Village. Officers from several Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) attended the training, which ran from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The QAF provides a shared standard for producers of official statistics in Belize, defining what constitutes quality and how it can be demonstrated. The framework is structured in three levels: the institutional environment for statistics, the processes used to produce them, and the outputs delivered to users. It sets out fifteen principles, including coordination, impartiality, transparency, confidentiality, methodological soundness, accuracy, timeliness, and accessibility.

The training covered each of the three framework levels in the morning, followed by a session on the QAF self-assessment tool in the afternoon. This tool will allow MDAs to review their statistical operations against the framework. Participants practiced using the tool with guidance from SIB staff.

SIB and nine BNSS institutions developed the framework through a participatory process. The rollout is phased, with six more MDAs expected to adopt the framework in 2026. This initiative is part of Enabling Belize's Statistical System Project (2024 to 2027), funded by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and supported by the United Nations Development Programme. The framework draws on guidance from international and regional standards.

The QAF is intended as an additional resource and does not replace existing quality guidelines used by MDAs. Institutions that already follow international quality frameworks can use the QAF to further standardise and streamline their practices.

SIB is responsible for coordinating the Belize National Statistical System, harmonising statistical methods, and designating official statistics under the Statistical Institute of Belize Act. Training and

technical support for BNSS partners will continue as the framework is rolled out.

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