



Building Regional Climate Capacity in the Caribbean (BRCCC) Programme

F-SIAC

CIMH, Husbands, St. James

June 15th - 26th, 2015

Week 1

15 June: After a brief opening ceremony, the first morning is used to introduce the workshop as a whole. Topic 10 from e-SIAC 2014 is used to emphasize that the ideas that are from agriculture are also equally applicable for other areas where climatic data are used.

The data for each participant is also prepared, ready for tasks throughout the workshop.

The afternoon is devoted to PICSA (Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture). This is a review and extension of the materials covered in Topic 9 of e-SIAC 2014. It illustrates some strength and weaknesses when trying to apply the approach in recent initiatives. There will also be discussion of the differences needed in the approach.

16-17 June: The main tasks are to consolidate the ideas in Topics 2 to 7 of e-SIAC 2014 using data from each country. This includes the start, end and length of the season, extremes in rainfall, including dry spells, as well as annual and seasonal totals for both amounts and number of rain days.

18 June: Genstat and the analysis of climatic data. Genstat is introduced and used for the analysis of climatic data, using both rainfall and temperature data. This will again use data from the individual countries. The analysis of extremes is introduced briefly to emphasize the need for statistical modelling.

19 June: The key concepts of statistical modelling, i.e. estimation and hypothesis testing are described and illustrated. This also continues the use of Genstat by the participants. The materials are the same as in two topics of a sister e-learning course, called "Statistics made Simple".



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Week 2

22 June: The modelling approach – putting estimation and hypothesis testing together. This approach uses the materials in Topic 5 of the sister e-learning course – Statistics Made Simple. The approach is illustrated using examples of simple regression. This will be extended, using climatic data, particularly to examine trends in temperature data.

23 June: Explaining variability – an introduction to the value and use of ANOVA. This uses and extends the ideas in Topic 6 of the “Statistics Made Simple” course. The ideas will again be illustrated, using Genstat, with the temperature data from the individual countries.

24 June: Getting more out of short records. A modelling approach to the analysis of rainfall data is introduced. The ideas of Markov chains is described and we show how the regression modelling ideas described earlier can be used. Instat will mainly be used here.

25 June: The seasonal forecast extended. This work will review and extend the ideas introduced in Topic 8 of e-SIAC. The methods used in CPT will also be described, and compared to the tools available in Genstat.

26 June: Further work. This final day is used to review where we are, and to plan for the future. The PICSA approach is reviewed again. Some potential “game changers” are also introduced, including the addition of satellite estimates of rainfall data and the possibility of climatic software, using the R statistics package becoming available in the future.