Realtime survey management and quality assurance and data processing using opensource tools for the modernization of the production of price indices in Belize 2022-2023



CONTENTS

- ❖ About Belize and the Statistical Institute of Belize
- Predecessors to the New System
- ❖ New CPI System



Belize Brief Intro

Geography

Belize is located in Central America, and it is bordered to the north by Mexico, to the south and west by Guatemala and to the east by the Caribbean Sea. The size of the territory totals 8,867 square miles, including 266 square miles of island.

Belize is also known for its extreme biodiversity and distinctive ecosystems. On the coast, there is a swampy coastal plain with mangrove swamps. In the south and interior there are hills and low mountains. Most of our land is undeveloped and is forested with hardwoods. It is a part of the Mesoamerican biodiversity hotspot and it has many jungles, wildlife reserves, a large variety of different species of flora and fauna and the largest cave system in Central America. Some species of Belize's flora and fauna include the black orchid, the mahogany tree, the toucan and the tapir.



Belize Brief Intro

History

The first people to develop Belize were the Maya around 1500 B.C.E. As shown in archeological records, they established a number of advanced settlements within the country. These include Caracol, Xunantunich, Lamanai, Lubaantun, and many others. The first European contact with Belize occurred in 1502 when Christopher Columbus reached the area's coast. In 1638, the first European settlement was established by England and for 150 years, many more English settlements were set up.

In 1840, Belize became a "Colony of British Honduras" and in 1862, it became a crown colony. For one hundred years after becoming a crown colony, Belize was a representative government of England, however in January 1964, full self-government with a ministerial system was granted. In 1973, the nation's name was changed from British Honduras to Belize and on September 21, 1981, full independence was achieved.



Belize Brief Intro

People

We are truly a melting pot of colorful personalities, making our more than 400,000 residents the country's greatest resource for tourism. The Belizean people are made up of Maya, Mestizo, Kriol, Garifuna, East Indian, Mennonite, Arab and Chinese.

A blending of cultures has resulted in one of the happiest and most peaceful countries in the region

Language English is the official language of Belize; we are blessed with a rich cultural diversity. Throughout the country you will meet and greet people that speak:

- Spanish
- Belizean Kriol
- Garifuna (African-based)
- Maya-Kekchi, Maya Mopan

- Mandarin,
- Low German
- Hindi
- Etc..



Statistical Institute of Belize

About the SIB

The Statistical Institute of Belize is an autonomous body created to collect, compile, extract, analyze and disseminate official statistics for the country of Belize, regarding the:

- Demography
- Social
- Environment
- Economy

The SIB is established under the Laws of Belize, under the SIB Act, No. 9 of 2006.

About the SIB

Mission Statement:

"To provide with the highest degree of integrity, quality and with strict adherence to professional and international standards, accurate, reliable and timely statistical information to facilitate effective policy and decision-making for local and international clients."

Vision Statement:

"The Statistical Institute of Belize shall be recognized as the leading national statistical agency, operating with professionalism and transparency in providing accurate and timely information that contributes to the development of Belize."

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Statistical Institute of Belize

Consumer Price Index Belize

About the SIB CPI Belize

- Historically the SIB/CSO produced Quarterly CPI prior to 2011
 - Fixed basket approach, Regional (urban only)
- From 2011 onward the SIB produces monthly CPI.
 - Fixed basket approach
 - Expanded Regions (urban only)
 - Since October 2020, expanded coverage (some rural)
- Constraints & Limitations for the CPI
 - Manpower
 - Only 1 FT employee for the entire CPI
 - Limited exposure to theoretical training
 - Financial Allocation (Budget)
 - High turnover rate of temporary workers

Predecessors to the New System History

CPISYS

Built By CSO 1999, VisualFoxPro

- Produced Forms for data collection (one letter size form per product)
- Program for data entry
- database management and processing in Mysql, Access and Excel

PIPS

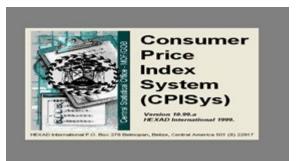
Built by IMF, VisualBasic

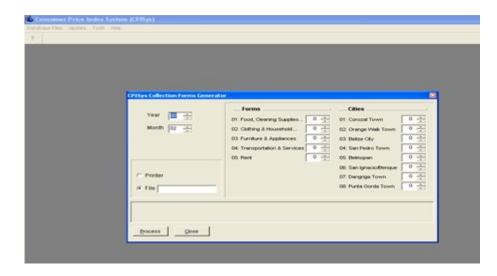
- Generates excel sheets for data collection
 - Sheets printed for collection
 - Data entry through macro excel sheet
 - Database management in Access

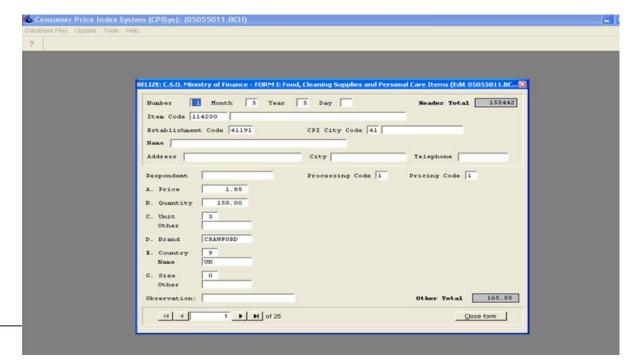
Improvements

SIB, automation for data collection using PIPS

- Google Sheets distribution via google drive, data collection using google sheets, Tablets
- CPI App v1.0- Android application for data collection, retrieve and export excel sheet using email account



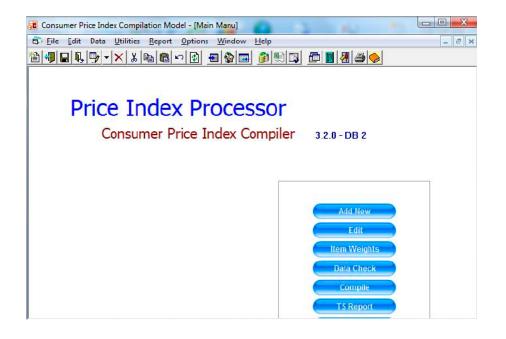


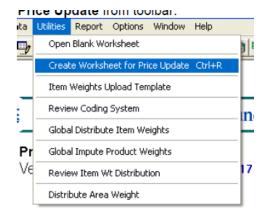


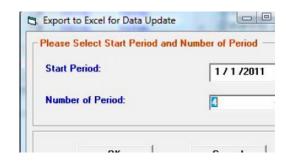
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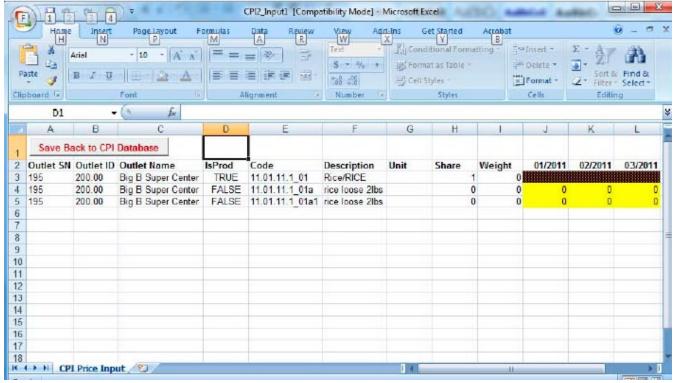
INTERVIEWER OBSERVATIONS

History- PIPS



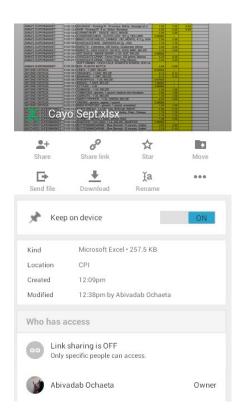


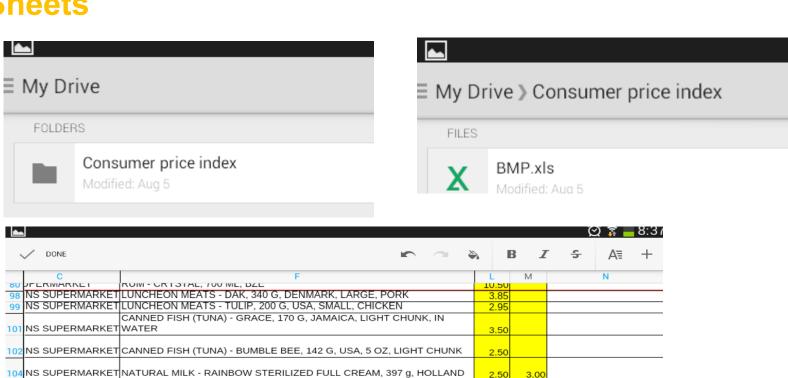




2.95







2.25

2.50

2.25

:::::::: ___

INS SUPERMARKET WATER

12.85

2.50

5.00

2.75

0.50



MIXED VEGETABLES, CANNED - GRACE, 425 G, JAMAICA, COUNTRY

NS SUPERMARKET NATURALMILK - 1 UNIT, 1 PINT, WD, LOCAL, BZE

NS SUPERMARKET|PEANUTS - PROMOS, HONEY ROASTED, 9oz, USA

NS SUPERMARKET BAKED BEANS, CANNED - Heinz, 840 grams, England

NS SUPERMARKET|RAISINS - SUNMAID, 1.5oz(42.5g), USA

NS SUPERMARKETIRAISINS - DELMONTE, 1 LB, RETAIL

125 NS SUPERMARKET STYLE, 15 OZ

NS SUPERMARKET EVAPORATED MILK - Grace, 410 Grams, Jamaica, 14.4 Oz

NS SUPERMARKET CHEESE - WESTERN DAIRIES, 1 LB, BELIZE, CHEDDAR

NS SUPERMARKETEVAPORATED MILK - CARNATION, 378 G, MEXICO, LARGE

NS SUPERMARKET BUTTER/MARGARINE - BLUE BONNET, 1 LB, USA, 4 STICKS

NS SUPERMARKET|BUTTER/MARGARINE - WOOD & DUNN, 454 G, NEW ZEALAND



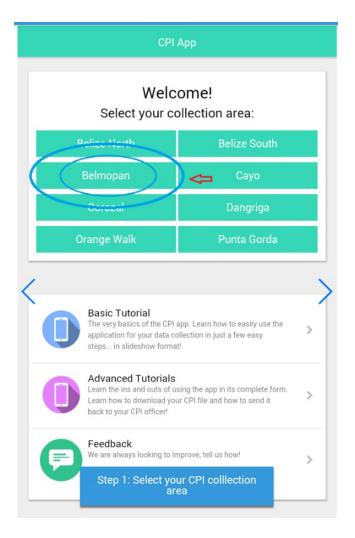
CANNED FISH (TUNA) - GRACE, 170 G, JAMAICA, LIGHT CHUNK, IN

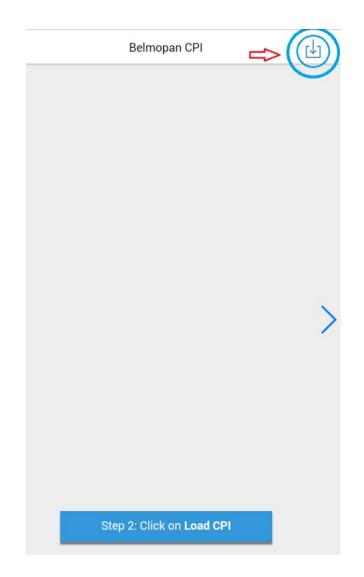
KUIVI - CK I STAL, 100 IVIL, DZL

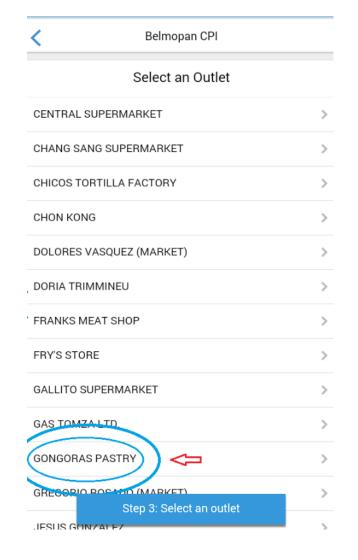
NS SUPERMARKETILUNCHEON MEATS - DAK, 340 G, DENMARK, LARGE, PORK

INS SUPERMARKETILUNCHEON MEATS - TULIP. 200 G. USA. SMALL. CHICKEN

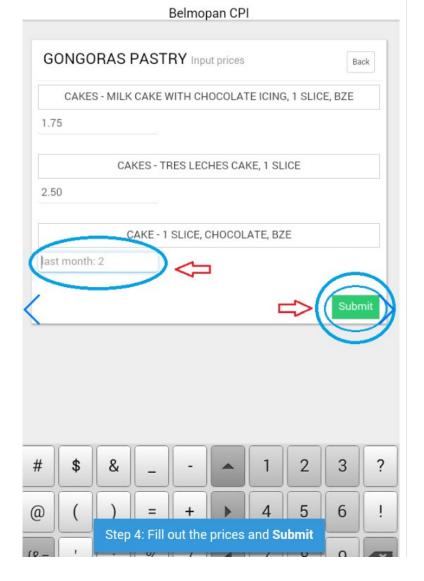
History- CPI App V1.0

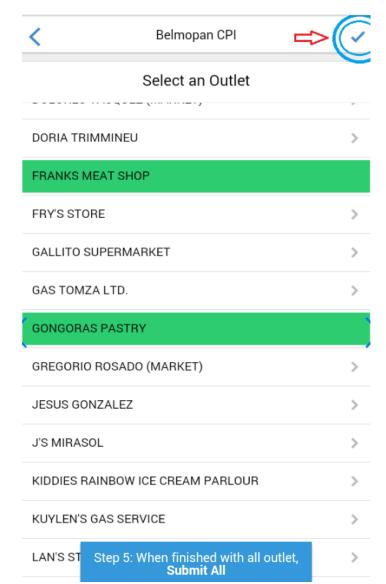


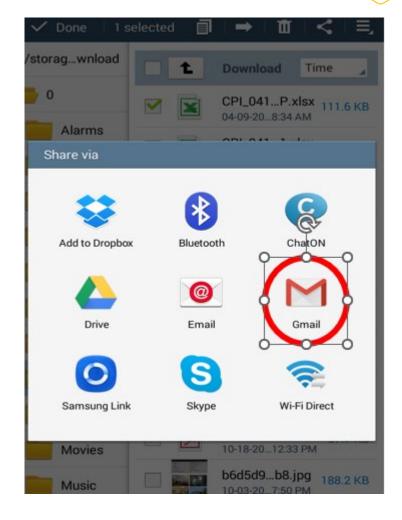




History- CPI App V1.0







New CPI System Introduction

About the Project:

- Specialized tools for CPI production are expensive and hard to find, especially for developing countries like Belize.
- ICT is essential for optimizing production
 - reducing personnel
 - time requirements
 - improving data quality
- Donor software lack ongoing maintenance and development.
- The new system integrates all processes involved
 - data collection
 - survey administration
 - data processing
 - index construction
- Open-source technologies key for tool's sustainability and shareability

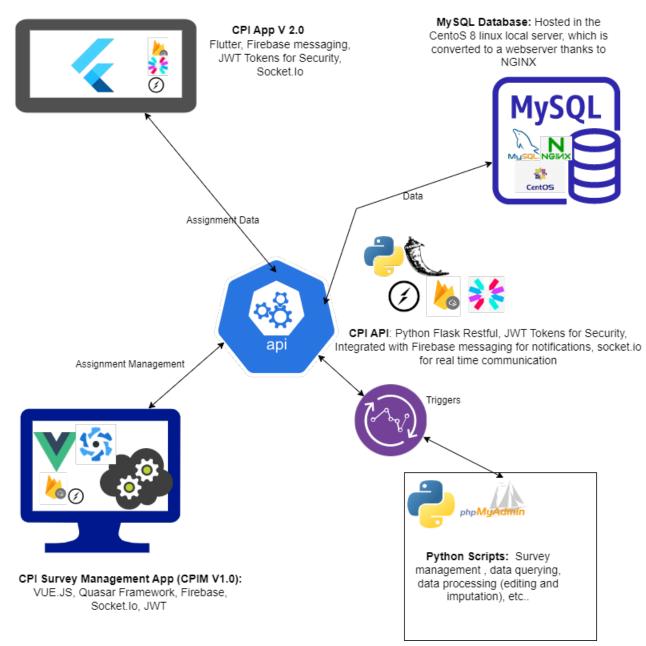
New CPI SystemIntroduction

- About the Project:
- Project duration: (8 12 months)
 - Phase 1 (July 2022 January 2023)
 - Phase 2 (ongoing)
- Core Developer Team:
 - Jefte Ochaeta- Project Lead, Statistician I, National Accounts Unit, Economic Statistics Department, Statistical Institute of Belize
 - Steven Palma- Software Developer, IT Department, Statistical Institute of Belize
 - Melvin Perez- Statistician II, Price Statistics Unit, Economic Statistics Department, Statistical Institute of Belize

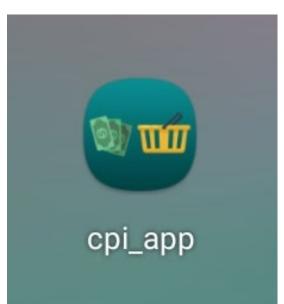
New CPI SystemIntroduction

Integrated Survey
Management System:

- Data Collector App (CPI App v 2.0)
- CPI Survey Management App (CPIM V1.0)



Data collector App (CPI App v2.0) Overview



- Self-contained: No need to download any extra files or apps.
- User-friendly: The simplicity in the design makes it easy to use.
- Quality Assurance: validation on prices, location of price collection. Validation for product replacements. Realtime data communication two-way survey management process.
- Data Encryption: local stored on device db

CPI App v2.0Walkthrough- Self Contained



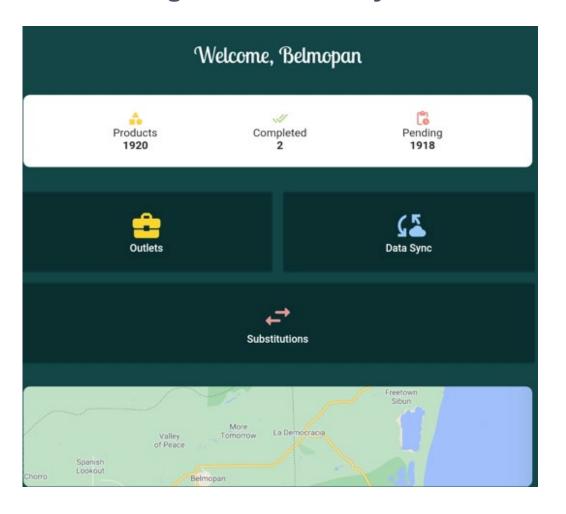


- APK Installer
- o Sign In required.
- o Data Sync button.
 - Internet access



CPI App v2.0Walkthrough- User friendly





Home Screen

- Progress Summary Dashboard
- Outlets
- Substitutions
- o Map
- Data Sync

CPI App v2.0Walkthrough- User friendly (Outlet)





Outlets

- Displays all the outlets that are required to be visited by the collector to collect prices.
- User can search through the outlet list
- Geolocation of outlet displayed on map
 - Capture/Adjust GPS if required
- Allows user to Add/Edit Outlets when needed



CPI App v2.0Walkthrough- User friendly (Substitution)





Substitution

- Displays all the required product replacements/substitution as designated by the HQ
- Displays all the requested product replacement by the user
- User can search through the substitution list

CPI App v2.0 Walkthrough- User friendly (Map)





Map

- Displays all the outlet location.
- Can zoom in on specific coordinate
- User can orient based on current device location

CPI App v2.0Walkthrough- User friendly (Outlet-Assignment)





Outlets- Assignment

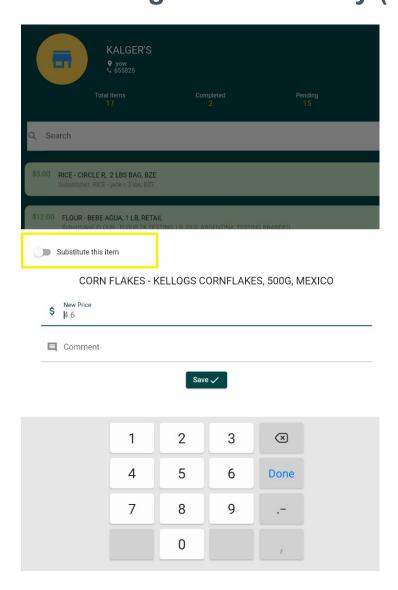
- Displays all the products to be collected at the selected outlet
- User can search through the product list
- Keeps track of completion in summary
- Indicates type of product assignment:

Missing Regular Assignment

- Substitution
- Substitution Request

CPI App v2.0Walkthrough- User friendly (Outlet-Assignment)



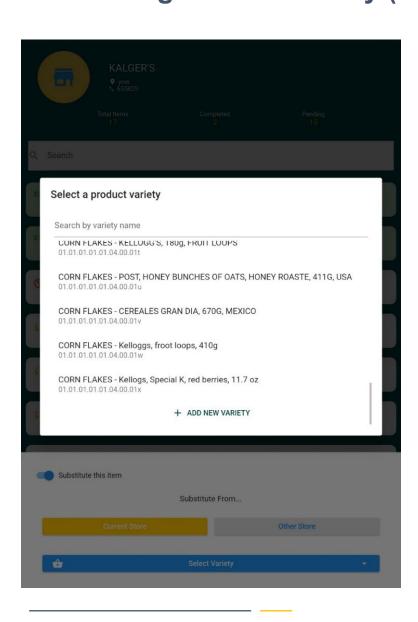


Outlets- Assignment- Collection form

- Displays previous price per item
- Allows for replacement of item
- Data entry of price and comments

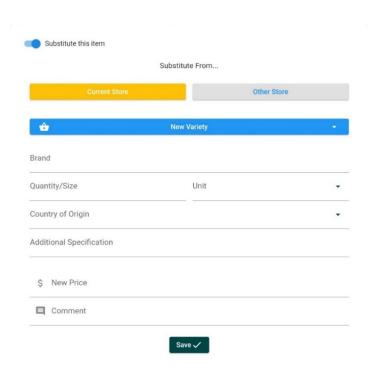
CPI App v2.0Walkthrough- User friendly (Outlet-Assignment)





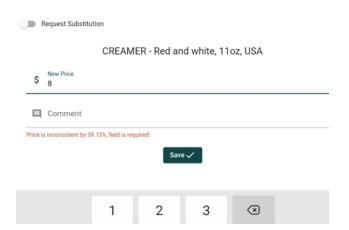
Outlets- Assignment- Replacement of item

- User can select from product variety in database
- User can add new product variety to database
 - Same Outlet
 - Different Outlet



CPI App v2.0Walkthrough- Quality Assurance







Assignment rejected!

Assignment MASA - 1LB from outlet MOLINO AHORO (AMIN HEGAR STADIUM AREA) was rejected! Please collect a price for that assignment!



Prices

- Flags user if entered price is beyond specified threshold
- Prompts user to investigate further the deviation and provide justification
- Records GPS location for each price entered

Real Time communication (two-way)

- Actions from user to server
 - Saved price
 - Substitution/Substitution request, etc...
- Notifications on device from server actions to user
 - Assignment creation
 - Assignment rejection, etc...

CPI Survey management system Overview

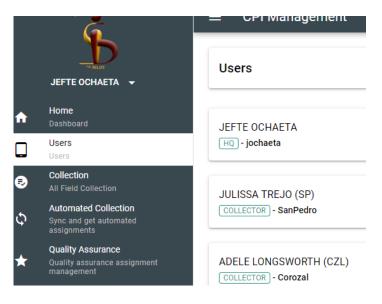


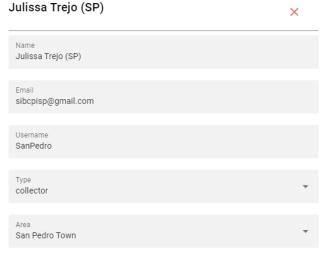
- User Management: Through the portal HQ or Admin creates and manages users for the CPI APP v2.0 and for the CPI Survey management system
- Assignment Management: through portal, creation of assignments by periodicity and user
- Summary Dashboard: summary of data collection by area
- Automated collection: automate some assignments with data
- Quality Assurance: provides overview and manage data from field collection
- Data Processing: data preparation for index computation

https://cpi.sib.org.bz

The CPI Survey management system User Management







UPDATE USER

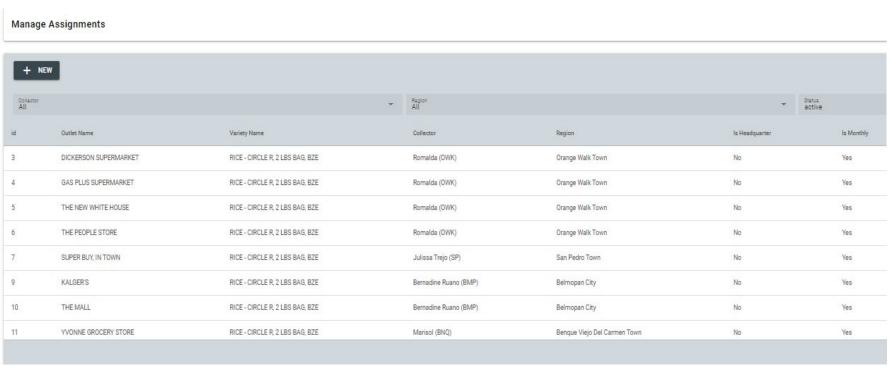
User Management: create and manage users, levels of users:

- Collector the user type for the CPI Collector App
- ES the user with restricted access to the CPI Data Management System
- HQ the user with complete access to the CPI Data Management System
- Admin database system administrator

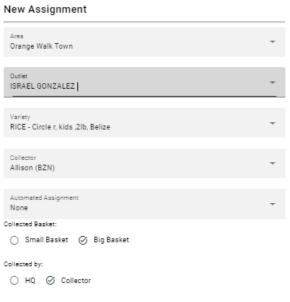
The CPI Survey management system Assignment Management

Creation and management of assignments

- User and periodicity
- This is a one-time setup
- But can add/modify new assignments and new areas if desired







SAVE ASSIGNMENT

The CPI Survey management system Summary Dashboard



The system provides a visual presentation of the progress in the data collection by the use:

- Summary Total:
 - Overview of total collection, total assignments, total collection, assignment approvals, substituted assignments



The CPI Survey management system Summary Dashboard



The system provides a visual presentation of the progress in the data collection by the use:

- Outlet Coverage:
 - The system provides a visual presentation of the level of outlet coverage in each data collection area. An outlet is considered complete only when all assigned tasks have been returned.
 - Select area to get exact percentage

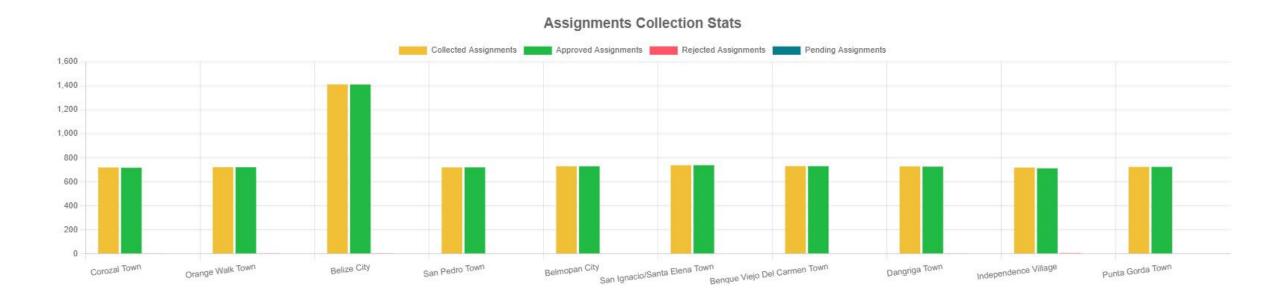


The CPI Survey management system Summary Dashboard



The system provides a visual presentation of the progress in the data collection by the use:

 Assignments Collection Status- The system provides a visual presentation of the number of assignments per area, categorized by their status.



(#)

The CPI Survey management system Summary Dashboard

The system provides a visual presentation of the progress in the data collection by the use:

- Assignments by Area: detailed data collection summary by area.
 - Collected
 - Substitutions
 - Missing %

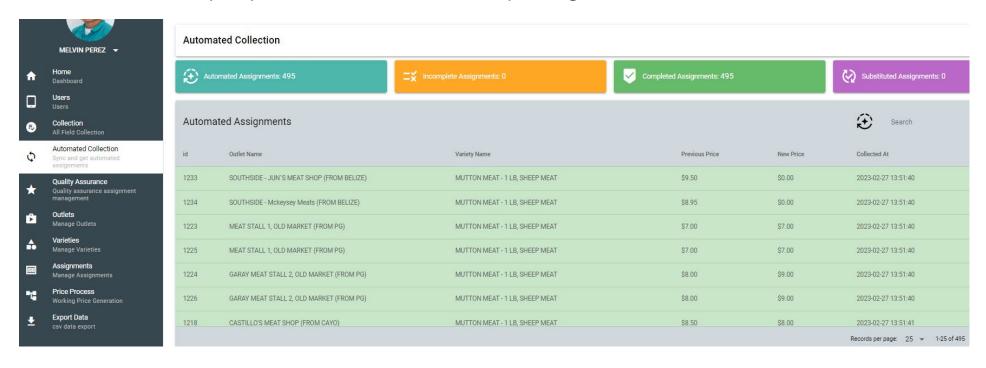
| Assignments By Area | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|---------------|------------------|----------|----------|----------------|-----------|------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Area | Collected | Substitutions | Pending Approval | Rejected | Approved | Missing Prices | Missing % | Total | | | | | | |
| Corozal Town | 131 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 0.65% | 2004 | | | | | | |
| Orange Walk Town | 498 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 24 | 1.20% | 2008 | | | | | | |
| Belize City | 137 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 41 | 1.27% | 3239 | | | | | | |
| San Pedro Town | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0% | 1976 | | | | | | |
| Belmopan City | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0% | 2042 | | | | | | |
| San Ignacio/Santa Elena Town | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0% | 2054 | | | | | | |
| Benque Viejo Del Carmen Town | 286 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 0.47% | 1917 | | | | | | |
| Dangriga Town | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0% | 2027 | | | | | | |
| Independence Village | 272 | 199 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 54 | 3.13% | 1727 | | | | | | |
| Punta Gorda Town | 197 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 43 | 2.18% | 1976 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | 1-10 of 10 | | | | | | |

1-10 of 10

The CPI Survey management system Automated collection



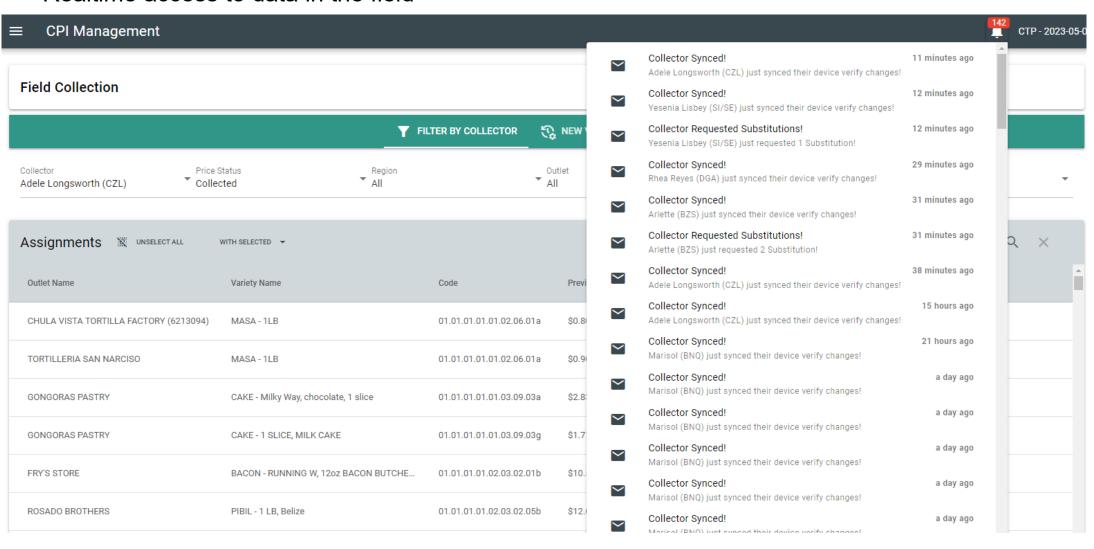
- With this module, prices not found in one area are set to be obtained from the nearest neighbouring area
 - Initial setup required but can be modified depending on collection



The CPI Survey management system Quality Assurance – Field Collection



Realtime access to data in the field

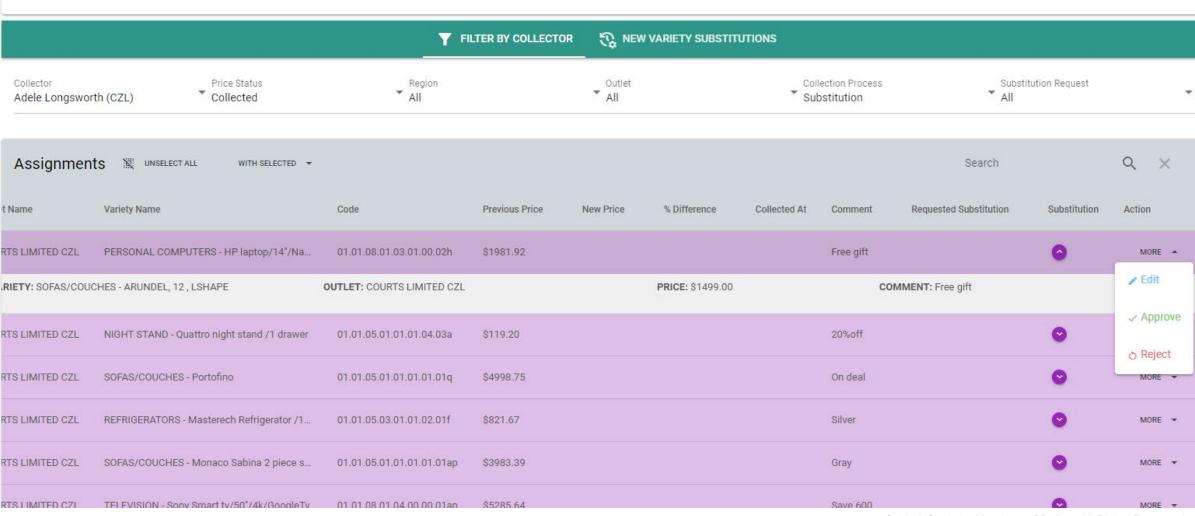


The CPI Survey management system Quality Assurance – Field Collection



Realtime access to data in the field - Filter (Collector, Status, etc...)

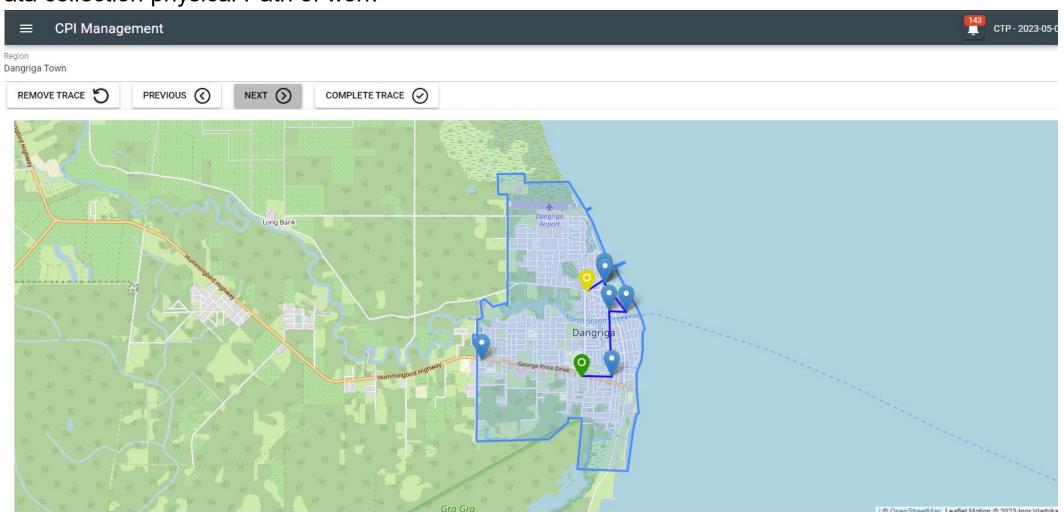
Field Collection



The CPI Survey management system Quality Assurance – Field Collection



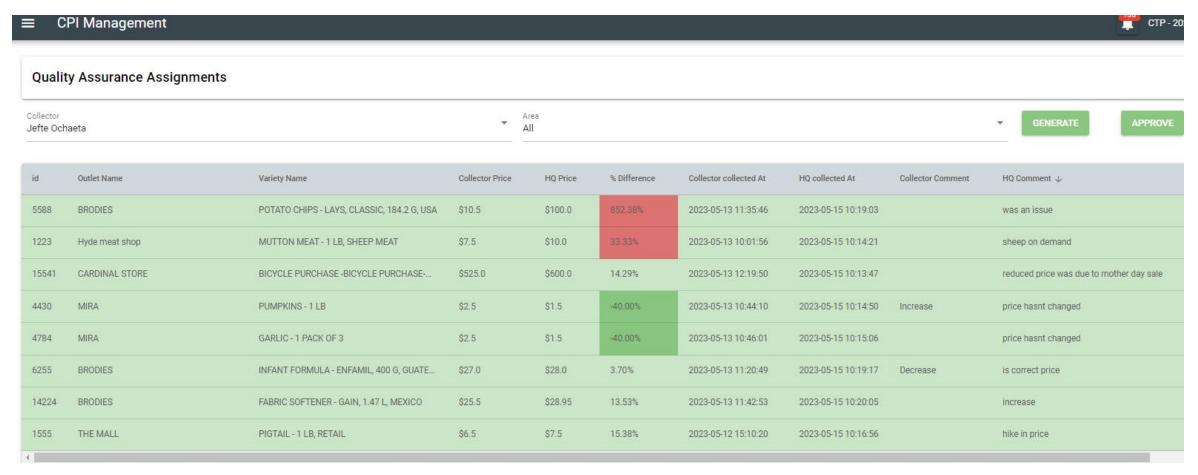
Data collection physical Path of work



The CPI Survey management system Quality Assurance – In person verification

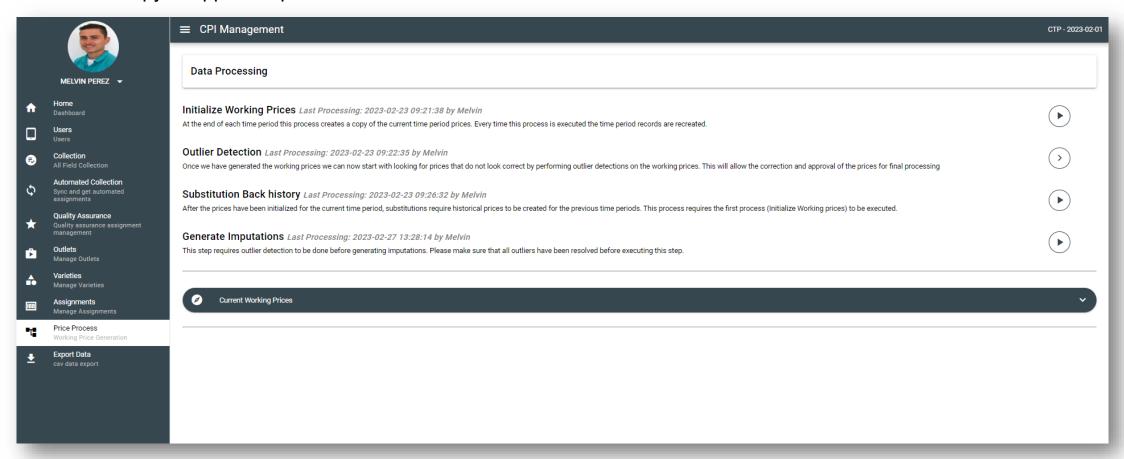
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- Sample generated from submitted field data
- In person verification through CPI App
- Comparison between enumerator and verifier



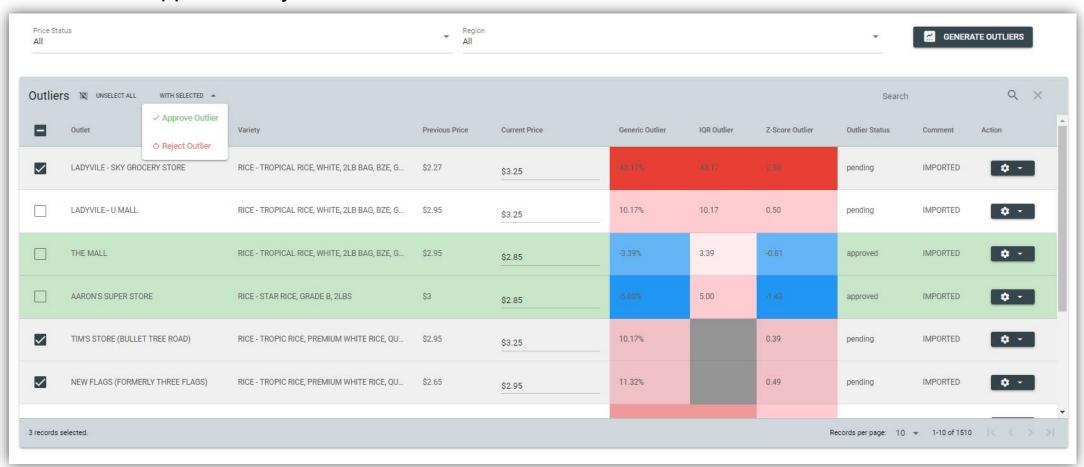


- Initializing Working Prices
 - Copy of approved prices



(#)

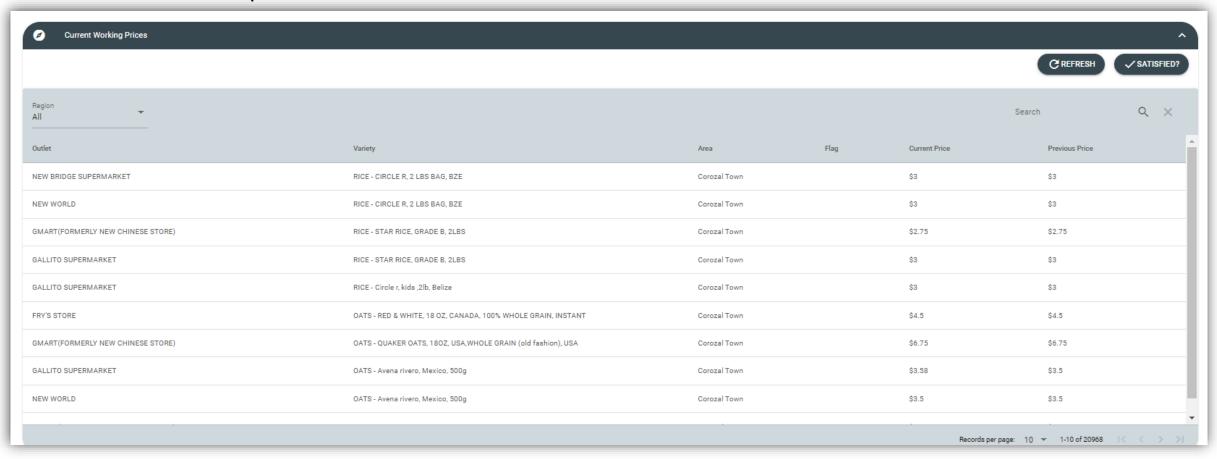
- Outlier detection
 - Generic, IQR, Z-Score
 - Approval, Rejection



- Substitution Back History
 - Chaining of New Variety with Old Variety Information
- Imputation
 - Missing prices, rejected outliers, rejected substitutions
 - Nearest Neighbor
 - Area
 - National

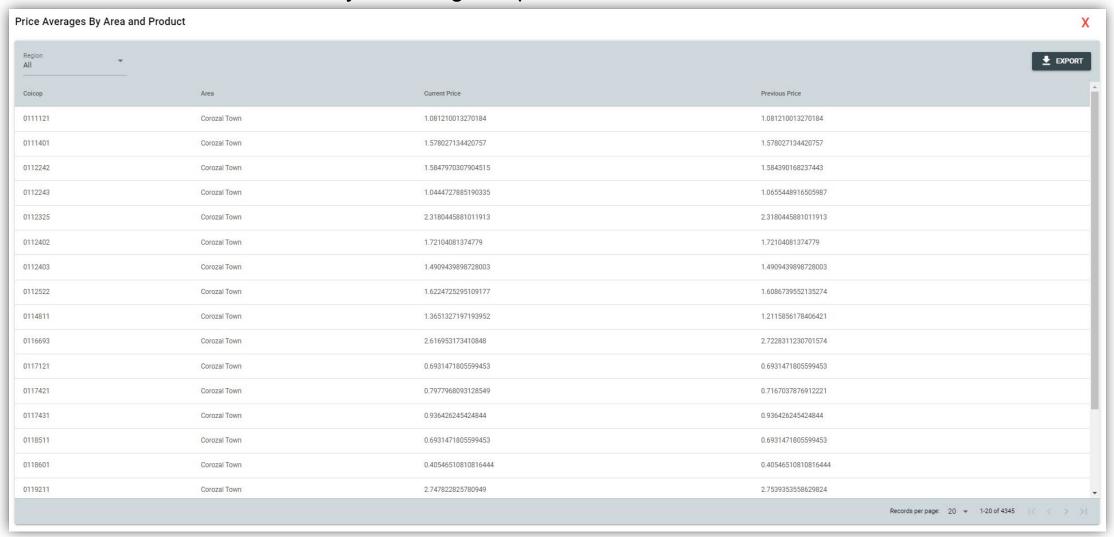


Final clean prices





COICOP 2018 summary of average Ln prices



Phase 2: One Stop Shop

ML in Processing

- ML for Anomaly detection
 - One-Way SVM, etc...
- ML for Imputation
 - SVM, KKN, Prophet, etc..

Survey Weight Processing

- Computation of CPI Basket from Survey data
- Distribution of CPI Basket at National or Regional

Configuration Files

- Mechanism to do weights
- Classification Systems
- Outlets handling
- Product handling
- Variety handling
- Multiple base periods

Index Computation

- Short Term
- Long Term
- Chained

Contact Us

Question Submitted to:

 Jefte Ochaeta- Project Lead, Statistician I, National Accounts Unit, Economic Statistics Department, Statistical Institute of Belize

The visionary- contact

- Steven Palma- Software Developer, IT Department, Statistical Institute of Belize
 The enforcer-contact
- Melvin Perez- Statistician II, Price Statistics Unit, Economic Statistics Department,
 Statistical Institute of Belize

The agent-contact