

Evidence-based and policy coherent Oceans Economy and Trade Strategies¹. Sector data factsheet²: Belize

Maritime and coastal tourism

1. INTRODUCTION

The project “Evidence-based and policy coherent Oceans Economy and Trade Strategies” aims to support developing countries such as Barbados, Belize and Costa Rica, in realizing trade and economic benefits from the sustainable use of marine resources within the framework of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). This data factsheet presents detailed sectorial information of one (of the four) ocean sectors selected in Belize to facilitate the identification and informed selection of key sectors to be considered for the next phase of the project:

Sector 1	Sector 2	Sector 3	➔ Sector 4
Marine fisheries	Aquaculture	Seafood manufacturing	Tourism

1.1. THE MARITIME TOURISM SECTOR

Tourism is the largest of all ocean economic sectors, generating more than a USD 1.6 trillion globally in 2017. International tourist arrivals grew by 7% reaching a record of 1,323 million arrivals in 2017. It is expected that international arrivals will reach to 1.8 trillion by 2030 (UNWTO, 2018), outperforming all other services sectors with perhaps the exception of financial services.

Tourism is also the sector that contributes the most to the GDP of Small Island Developing States (SIDS), but also of coastal developing countries. These countries enjoy a special geographical situation, outstanding natural endowments and cultural heritage richness that make them unique for visitors. At the same time, they confront several challenges and vulnerabilities including remoteness, low connectivity, limited economic diversification, small internal markets, as well as adverse, perhaps recurrent climate events.

Management of ecosystems services that support tourism activities is essential for their sustainability due to their high levels of vulnerability and interconnectivity, especially in the marine realm. Belize has outstanding natural coastal, reefs and marine endowment and a relatively diversified tourism offer, with coastal, marine,

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ecotourism, adventure and cultural heritage tourism being the most developed segments. Belize is also quite dependent on tourism as it tends represents about 20-25 % of its GDP depending on the year.

BOX 1. DEFINITIONS AND MEASURES OF TOURISM

DEFINITION OF SUSTAINABLE AND MARITIME TOURISM

- **Sustainable tourism:**

“Tourism that takes full account of its current and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment and host communities” (UN-WTO).

- **Maritime and coastal tourism:** There is no universally-accepted definition of maritime and coastal tourism. The following have been formulated and proposed by the private sector and are now widely used:
 - Maritime tourism covers tourism that is largely water-based rather than land-based (e.g. boating, yachting, cruising, nautical sports), but includes the operation of landside facilities, manufacturing of equipment, and services necessary for this segment of tourism (Ecorys, 2013).
 - Coastal tourism covers beach-based recreation and tourism (e.g. swimming, surfing, sun bathing), and non-beach related land-based tourism in the coastal area (all other tourism and recreation activities that take place in the coastal area for which the proximity of the sea is a condition), as well as the supplies and manufacturing industries associated to these activities (Ecorys, 2013).

In general, however, the terms “maritime” and “coastal” are interchangeably used when describing tourism.

TOURISM AND THE ECONOMY: MEASUREMENT CHALLENGES

- Measuring the economic performance or impact of tourism is not straightforward. Official statistics rarely include pure tourism items. When they do, granularity of data is limited and does not allow capturing maritime and coastal tourism.
- Similarly, tourism is not included in standard goods and services trade reporting systems, nor it is directly captured by international trade statistics.
- Item SDB3 (3-digit) of the 2010 edition of the Extended Balance of Payments Services Classification (EBOPS 2010; BPM6), is used as proxy to measure the direct economic contribution of tourism:

Sector	BPM6/EBOPS 2010 item	Item name	UNCTAD/WTO Equivalent
Tourism	SDB3 (3-digit)	Travel - Personal travel - Other Personal Travel	Travel, Personal, Other (other than health and education)

- Indirect and induced effects are quantified relying on external sources, including literature.

ANALYTICAL IMPLICATIONS

- This factsheet presents original analysis conducted using best-available official statistics published by the Government of Belize and most authoritative international bodies, such as UNCTAD and the WTO.
- When tourism data were not available, the sector or industry that best approximate it has been used as perimeter (Accommodation and food services, Travel etc.).
- In any case, survey data/insight or, as last resort, literature, has been used to complement sector/industry evidence and provide ad-hoc insight on the maritime and coastal tourism segment.
- Collecting additional, more granular data will allow validating findings presented in this draft and narrow down the focus of the analysis to an optimal level. A wish-list of key statistics or metrics is provided in section 7.

1.2. BELIZE: THE TOURISM CONTEXT

Land: 22,966 km²

Coasts length: 386 km

Economic structure of the GDP (2016): agriculture and fisheries made 11.7 % of GDP, industry 14.4 % and services 59.9 %. Tourism alone represents almost one fourth of GDP.

Tourism as a percentage of GDP (2017): 20-25% (direct contribution); up to 40% (total contribution, including indirect and induced effects).

Main tourist spots sites: Ambergis Caye, Caye Caulker, Great Blue Hole, Xunantunich, Hol Chan Marine Reserve.

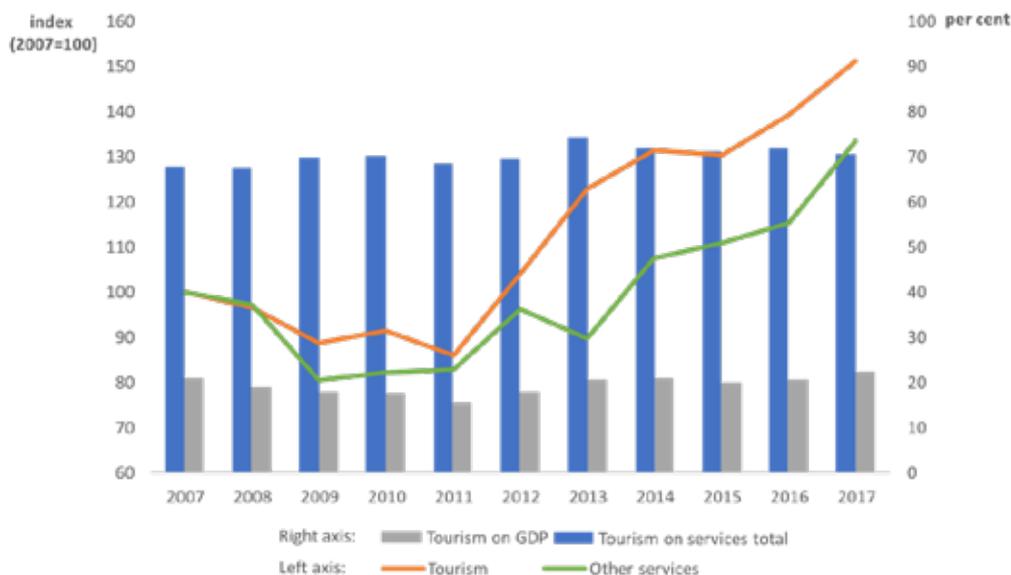
2. SECTOR OVERVIEW

2.1. CONTRIBUTION TO GDP

Tourism is a fast-growing sector in Belize. In 2017, the value of exports of non-business travel services, other than health and education reached at an all-time-high of 409 million USD, up by 50% from 2007. In this period, the sale of tourism services to non-residents have grown at an annual average rate of 4%, outperforming other services exports (3%) (figure 1).

While the weight of tourism on services exports has only moderately grown in the last decade (from 68% in 2007 to 70% in 2017), its relative share of GDP recorded a u-shaped trend. It's been shrinking in connection with the global economic downturn, from 21% in 2007 to 16% in 2011, and increased again thereof. In 2017, it accounted for 22% of the country GDP.³

FIGURE 1: CONTRIBUTION OF TOURISM SERVICES EXPORTS TO GDP, 2007-17



Source: UNCTAD analysis on data UNCTAD/WTO Balance of Payments (BPM) Statistics (2018) and World Bank National Accounts (2018).

Note: BPM6 3-digit item SDB3, "Travel – Personal travel – Other Personal Travel" is used as proxy of tourism services. The corresponding nomenclature in UNCTAD/WTO BPM statistics is: "Travel, Personal, Other (other than health and education)".

³ Quantifying the importance of marine and coastal tourism in the national economy requires more granular data, not included in standard reporting frameworks.

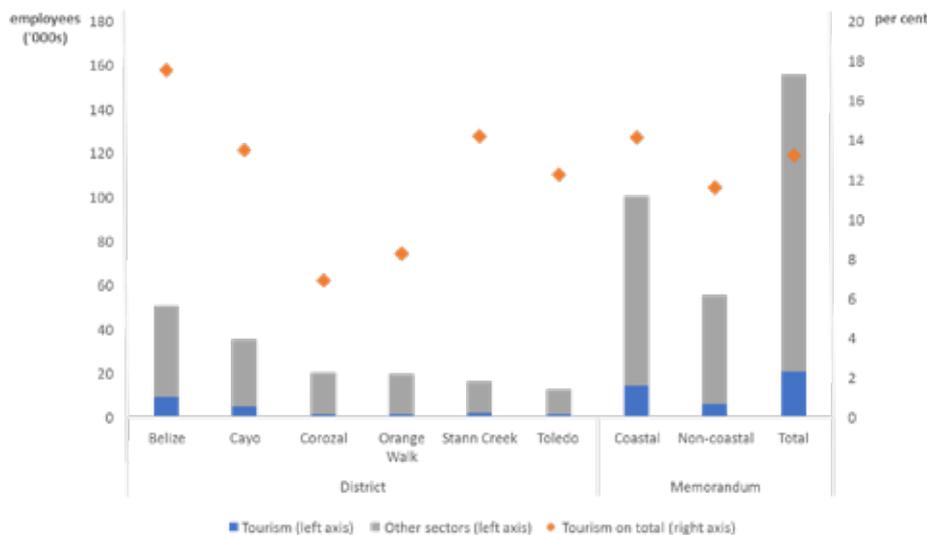
Due to the important linkages of tourism with the rest of the economy, the overall impact is believed to be much bigger. According to a recent study by the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC), the overall economic benefits of tourism in Belize are worth up to 700 USD billion, corresponding to roughly 40% of GDP. Most of them are linked to indirect and induced effects of tourism activities (WTTC, 2017).

Official statistics do not allow quantifying the incidence of marine and coastal tourism. Yet, survey statistics point to a strong concentration of tourism activities in few, perhaps popular seaside destinations. Of 13,446 bed places available in the country in 2017, half was located in Belize’s top 3 beach spots (Ambergris Caye, Caye Caulker and Placencia). These destinations were visited by 42%, 35% and 14% of visitors respectively, and are home to 35% of Belize’s tour operators.⁴

2.2. EMPLOYMENT

As of April 2018, the tourism sector employs close to 21,000 Belizeans, corresponding to 13% of national employment (Figure 2). The contribution of tourism to employment varies widely across districts, ranging from 7% in Corozal to 18% in Belize. In general, tourism absorbs a larger share of the employed population in coastal (14%) as opposed to continental (12%) districts. This points to a (possibly) important role of maritime tourism activities as a source of local employment.⁵

FIGURE 2: TOURISM CONTRIBUTION TO EMPLOYMENT, BY DISTRICT, 2018



Source: UNCTAD analysis on data Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB), Labour Force Survey (April 2018).

Note: Coastal districts are Belize, Corozal, Stann Creek and Toledo.

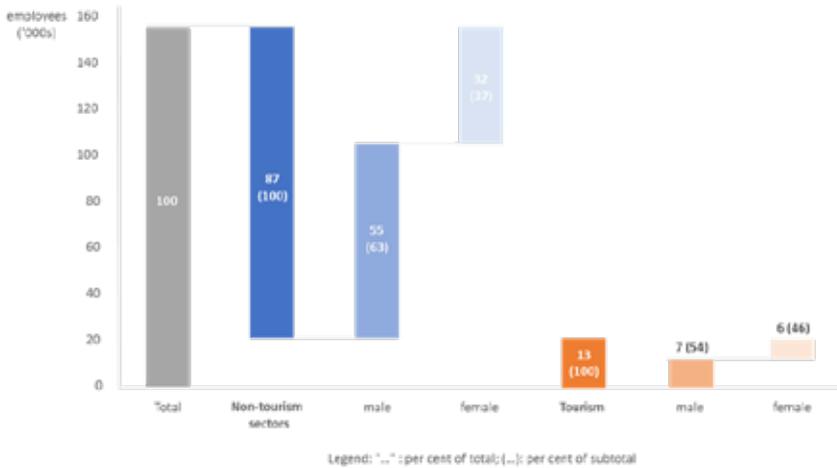
Tourism also creates a bunch of indirect jobs in upstream and downstream industries. While it directly employs around 20,000 nationals (figure 2), this figure grows four times as big if also indirect and induced employment effects are considered. Overall, it is estimated that the sector generates over 90,000 jobs, equal to 45% of national employment (WTTC, 2017).

Not only is tourism an important source of employment in Belize, but it is also intensive in female employment. Indeed, it employs relatively more women than other sectors of the economy. In 2018, some 46% of employees in the Belizean tourism sector were female, roughly 10% more compared to other sectors (37%) (figure 4). Beyond generating economic value, a booming tourism sector may also contribute to advancing a more inclusive and gender-equal society.

⁴ UNCTAD analysis on data Belize Tourism Board (BTB) available in: “Travel and Tourism Statistics Digest 2017”. Note that these estimates are conservative, as they only include top 3 marine tourism spots.

⁵ This conjecture may be object of further assessment and be verified accessing more granular data.

FIGURE 3: TOURISM AND NON-TOURISM EMPLOYMENT, BY GENDER, 2018



Source: UNCTAD analysis on data Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB), Labour Force Survey (April 2018).

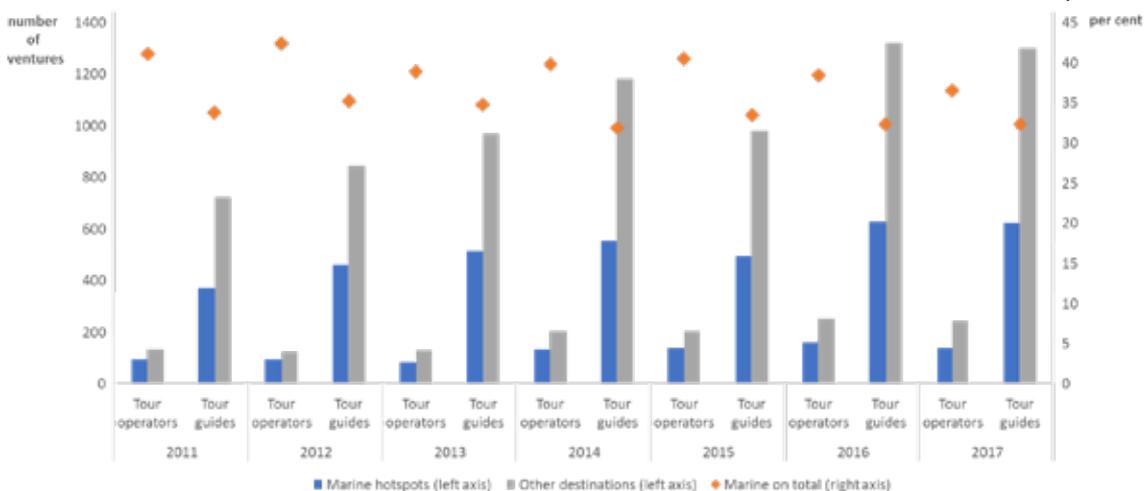
2.3. ENTERPRISE

The recent growth of the tourism sector has translated into a growing number of ventures dealing with the provision of tourism services.

One prominent type of business is tour operators. In 2017, Belize counted 381 active tour operators, almost twice as many as were in business in 2011 (n=224). Interestingly, about 40% of them are based in key maritime hotspots (figure 4). Yet, the weight of operators in popular maritime hotspots have been diminishing (from 41% in 2011 to 36% in 2017), suggesting a shift of focus of the tourism offer towards new destinations, such as rainforest and cultural heritage sites, or both.

Tour guides have followed a similar trend, having grown at annual average rate of 10% over the same period. Compared to operators, however, maritime guides have kept increasing similarly to no maritime (CAGR= 9% and 10% respectively). In 2017, 32% of guides were operating in key marine hotspots.

FIGURE 4: TOUR OPERATORS AND GUIDES: MARITIME HOTSPOTS VS. OTHER DESTINATIONS, 2011-17



Source: UNCTAD analysis on data Belize Tourism Board (BTB) (2018).

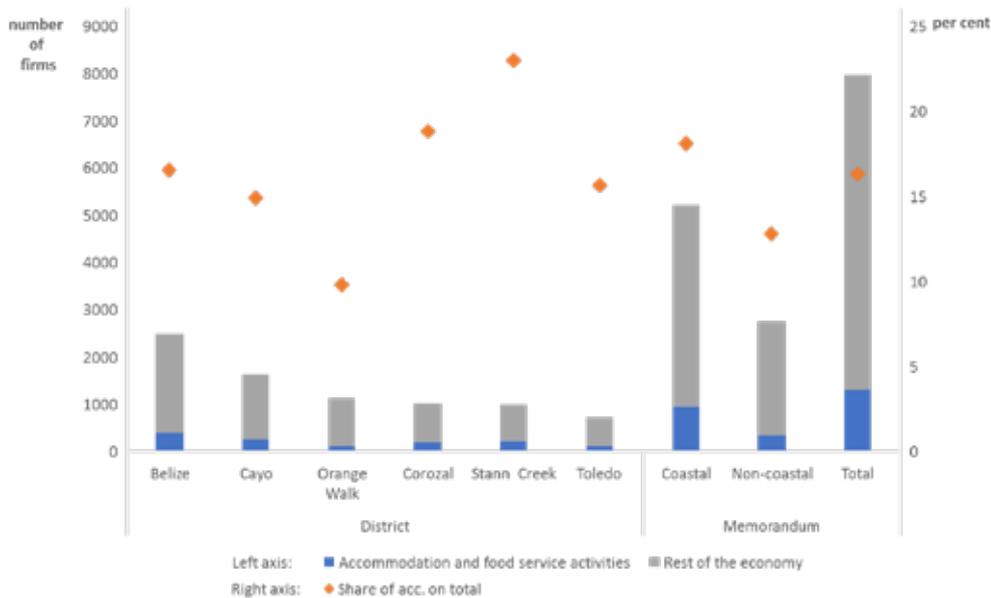
Note: Maritime hotspots are Ambergis Caye, Caye Caulker, Corozal and Placencia. Figures exclude islands.

One important sector in terms of buyer-supplier linkages with ocean industries (upstream) and tourism markets (downstream) is accommodation and food services. As of 2016, 16 out of 100 Belizean firms belonged

to the accommodation and food services sector. Of them, three out of four are located in coastal regions (Figure 5). Interestingly, 55% of their sales originate from exports, almost twice the economy average (28%). This suggests a pronounced exposure of these firms to foreign (tourist) demand and tastes.

The weight of the sector in the firm population varies widely across districts, ranging from 10% in Orange Walk to 23% in Stann Creek. On average, coastal districts have larger accommodation and food services sectors compared to continental (18% vs. 13% of firms). This may be partly explained by market linkages between maritime tourism and hospitality services, such as hotels and restaurants. If true, this involves opportunities to link tourists' consumption with fish harvesting and seafood processing activities.⁶

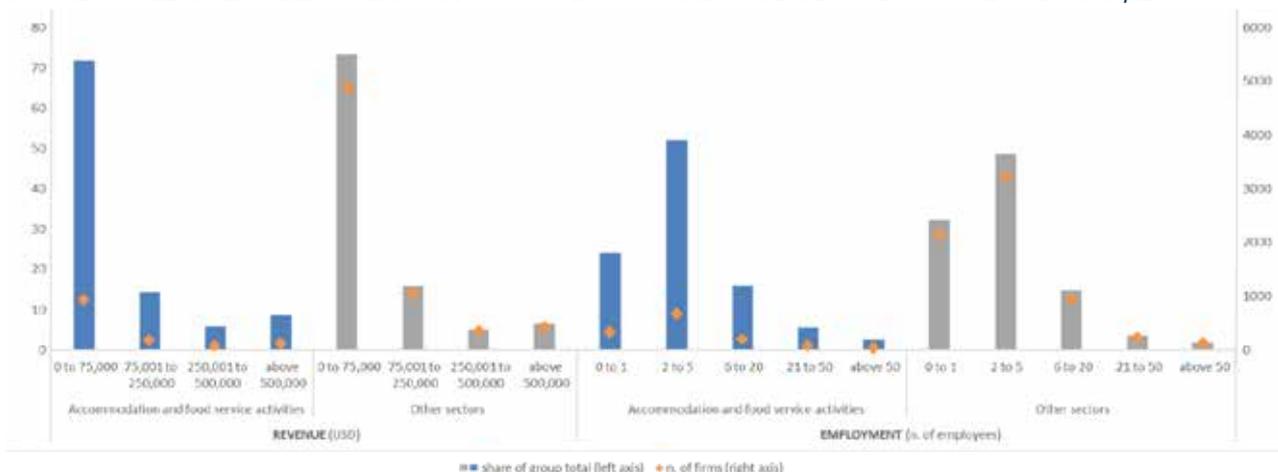
FIGURE 5: ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICE VS OTHER ESTABLISHMENTS, BY DISTRICT, 2016



*Source: UNCTAD analysis on data Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB), Business Establishment Survey (2016).
 Note: Coastal districts are Belize, Corozal, Stann Creek and Toledo.*

Accommodation and food service firms show average size and age. As per the rest of the economy, establishments are predominantly small-sized, the most having annual turnover below 75,000 USD (72%) and between 0 to 5 employees (76%) (figure 6). Only 2% of surveyed firms have been established in the last year and over 40% are more than 10 years old. In the face of a booming tourism sector, this suggest that growth may be fuelled by incumbents readapting their business models to a larger variety of demands and tastes.

FIGURE 6: SIZE OF ESTABLISHMENTS: ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICE VS OTHER SECTORS, 2016



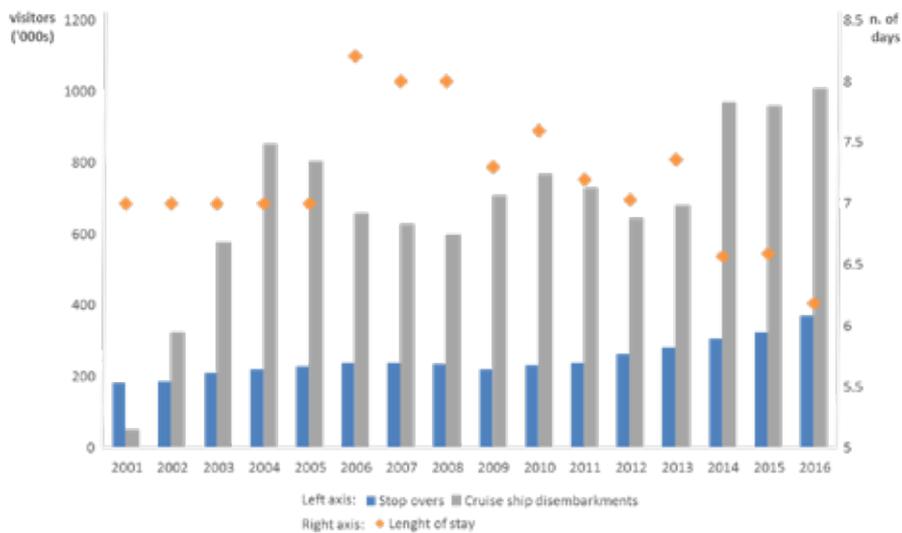
⁶ These conjectures can be verified by conducting input-output analysis on national supply-use tables.

3. MARKETS

3.1 TOURIST ARRIVALS

Over the past 15 years Belize managed to attract an increasing number of international tourists. Between 2001 and 2016, cruise ship disembarkments have increased twenty-fold, while stop-over arrivals have doubled (figure 7). While arrivals – particularly stop-overs - have recorded steep upward trends, the average length of stay has been declining. In 2016, tourists have spent on average 6.2 days in the country, roughly 25% less than they did 2006. This calls for targeted policy actions to make international tourism more “sticky” and increase visitor expenditure.

FIGURE 7: INTERNATIONAL TOURIST ARRIVALS: STOP OVERS VS. CRUISE SHIP, 2001-16



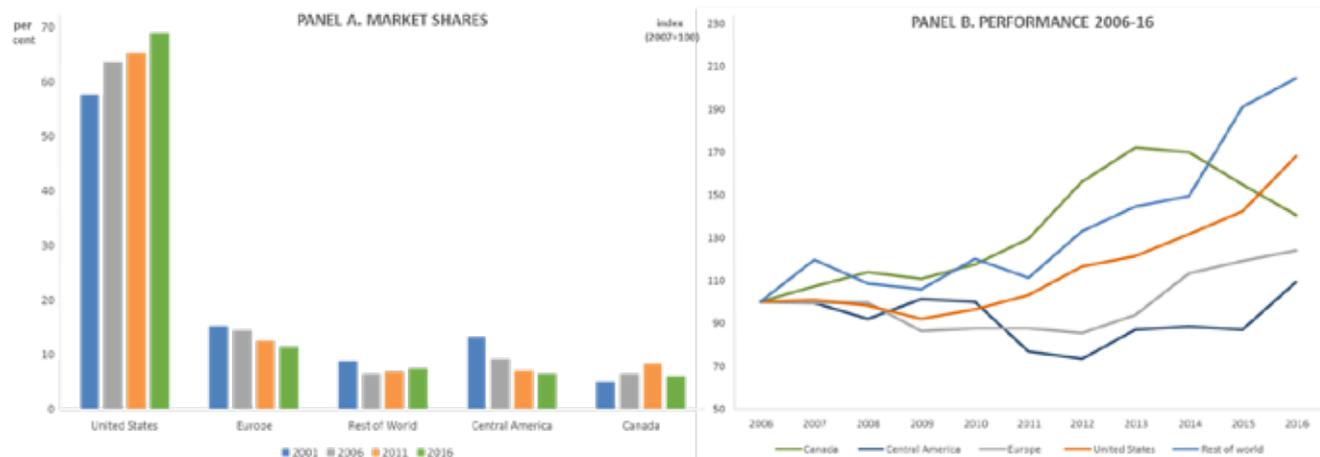
Source: UNCTAD analysis on data Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB) and Belize Tourism Board (BTB) (2018).

Note: Figures include international tourism only and exclude Belizeans living abroad.

Tourism in Belize have been historically dependent on a few, perhaps large markets. In 2016, almost 3 out of 4 tourists visiting the country were American. the United States are the primary inbound market and accounted for 69% of stop-over arrivals in 2016, followed by Europe (12%) and Central America (7%) (Figure 8, panel a).

As opposed to supply, market demand shows a relatively high degree of dynamism (figure 8, panel b). Between 2006 and 2016, arrivals from the United States have increased at an average rate of 5% per year, over twice as fast as Europe (2%) and four times faster than Central America (1%). The fastest-growing markets belong to the rest of world, particularly the Middle East (19%) and Oceania (11%). Yet, these markets account for small shares of total arrivals (0-2%).

FIGURE 8: TOP 5 INBOUND TOURIST MARKETS IN 2016, BY ARRIVALS, 2001-16



Source: UNCTAD analysis on data Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB) and Belize Tourism Board (BTB) (2018).

Note: Figures include international tourism only and exclude Belizeans living abroad. Countries accounting for 5% or less of tourist arrivals have been grouped in the category “Rest of World”.

Looking at demand also helps to shed light on the marine and coastal tourism sector, for which official statistics are not available. To this aim, survey data on activities and places visited by stopover tourists are particularly meaningful.⁷

In 2017, the top 3 most popular tourist attractions in Belize were maritime, specifically the coral reef, marine protected areas and offshore islands. They’ve been reportedly visited by 57%, 46% and 42% of. Snorkelling was the most popular activity, performed by 71% of visitors, followed by caving (31%) and jungle trekking (30%). Other coastal activities, such as fishing (19%), diving (19%) and sailing (12%), were also relatively popular.

Still, some potential may remain untapped. Sport fishing is an exceptional case in point. While one out five tourists report to have gone fishing, only 1% of tourists have chosen a fishing lodge as accommodation. Business models that better integrate different subsectors of the blue economy, such as experiential fishery eco-tourism, can be further explored and developed. Better regulation may be also needed in term of fishing licenses for tour operators engaged directly or indirectly in sport or incidental fishing activities.

3.2 CONNECTIVITY

Following sustained growth in the tourism sector, Belize had to deal with providing connectivity services in line with regional and international standards. Given the diminishing importance of regional tourism and the increasing importance of the United States and Europe as inbound tourist markets, air connectivity tops the agenda. In 2016, 77% of tourists have reached the country by air, while only 22% did it via ground or sea.⁸

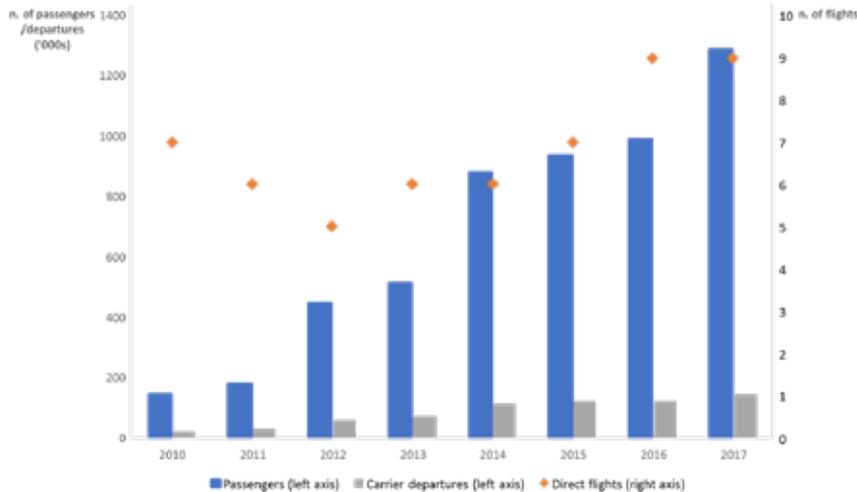
International flight statistics reveal that air passengers of carriers registered in the country has increased by 37% annually between 2010 and 2017, reaching an all-time high of 1,385 million in 2017. Similarly did carrier departures (CAGR=32%) (figure 9). In line with passenger and departure trends, the number of destinations connected with Belize via direct flights has also doubled, from 4 in 2008 to 9 in 2017.

⁷ The following figures were calculated by UNCTAD using data from the Belize Tourism Board (BTB), as published in their annual report 2017. For more information, please see: BTB (2017).

⁸ UNCTAD analysis on data Statistical Institute of Belize and Belize Tourism Board (BTB). Figures exclude cruise ships arrivals.

Yet, 6 out of 9 destinations are in the Americas, with only one direct flight to the UK and no service connecting continental Europe (table 1). In an effort to diversify the customer base - largely (and increasingly) focused on the United States – Belize shall invest in opening new direct flight routes to Europe, enabling European passengers to reach the country in a time-efficient manner. If airport infrastructure allows, entering into open skies agreements (or specific agreements with low cost airlines) with Canada and key European destinations (e.g. France, Germany and Switzerland) may be an interesting option to explore.

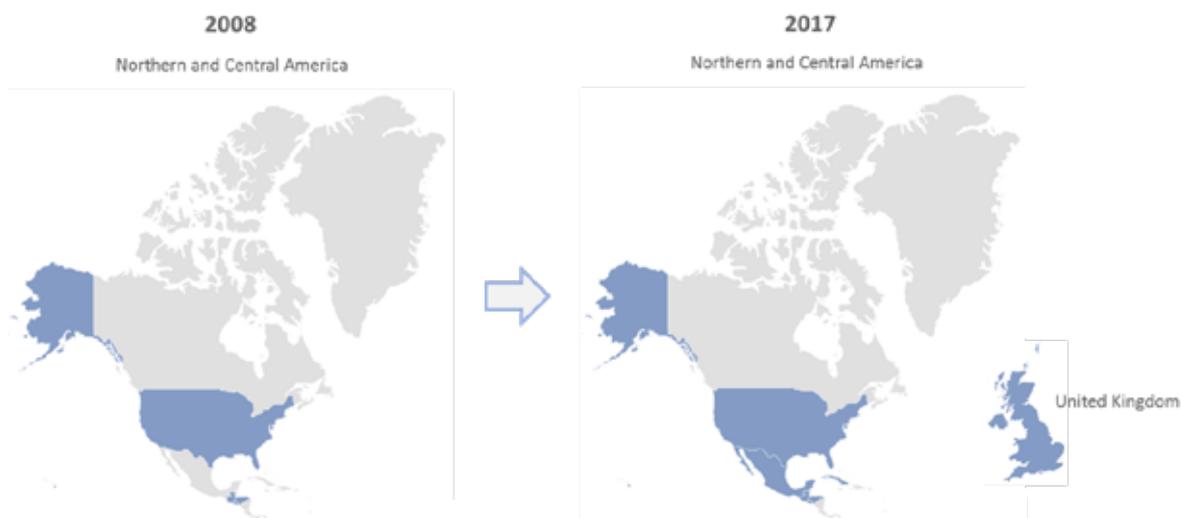
FIGURE 9: AIR PASSENGERS, CARRIER DEPARTURES AND DIRECT FLIGHT DESTINATIONS, 2010-17



Source: UNCTAD analysis on data International Air Transport Association (IATA) Air Transport Statistics; International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Civil Aviation Statistics and ICAO staff estimates (as reported in the World Bank World Development Indicators).

Note: “Passengers” are domestic and international aircraft passengers of air carriers registered in the country. Similarly, “carrier departures” are domestic takeoffs and takeoffs abroad of air carriers registered in the country. Missing data points for “direct flights” were compiled by UNCTAD via desk research.

TABLE 1: DIRECT FLIGHT ROUTES TO AND FROM BELIZE, 2008-17



Source: UNCTAD analysis on data International Air Transport Association (IATA) Air Transport Statistics.

4. TRADE

4.1. OVERVIEW

TABLE 2: TRADE IN TOURISM IN A NUTSHELL (2002-17)

	2002	2007	2012	2017

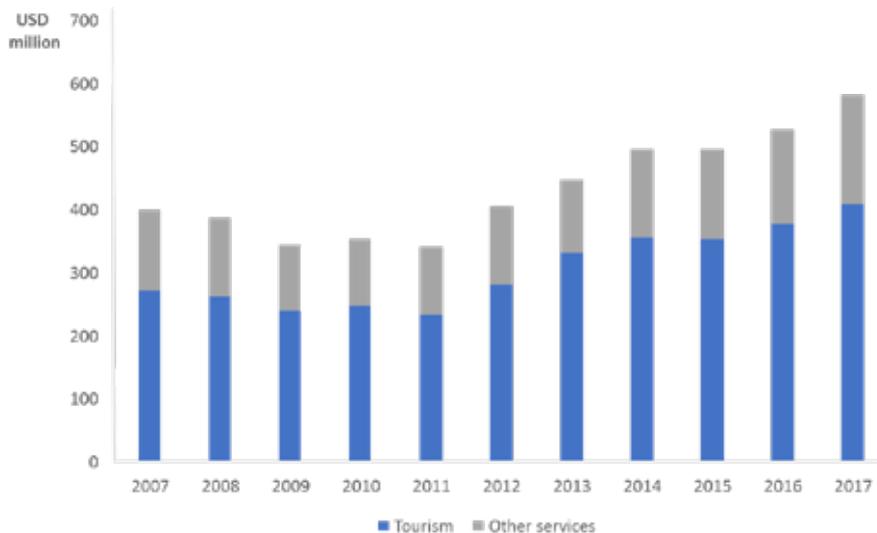
EXPORTS VALUE (USD MLN)		270.8	282.2	409.2
TOTAL SERVICES EXPORTS (USD MLN)		400.0	406.6	581.4
SHARE OF SERVICES EXPORTS TOTAL		68%	69%	70%
N. OF STOPOVER TOURIST ARRIVALS	199'521	251'422	277'135	385'583*
HHI INDEX (NATIONALITY OF ARRIVALS)	0.363	0.430	0.469	0.493*
N. OF DIRECT FLIGHT DESTINATIONS		4	5	9

Source: UNCTAD analysis based on multiple sources. *Data points of stopover arrivals and HHI for 2017 are 2016.

4.2. TRADE TRENDS

Despite a deteriorating trade performance in the years following the global financial crisis, Belize's exports of travel and tourism services have grown at annual average rate of 4% in the last decade (2007-17) (figure 9). If most recent years are considered (2011-17), annual average growth was as large as 10%. Exports of travel and tourism services have reached an all-time high of 409 USD billion in 2017, as they account for 70% of Belize's services export and over 20% of the country's GDP.⁹

FIGURE 9: EXPORTS OF TOURISM AND TRAVEL SERVICES, 2007-17



Source: UNCTAD analysis on data UNCTAD/WTO Balance of Payments (BPM) Statistics (2018)

Note: BPM6 3-digit item SDB3, "Travel – Personal travel – Other Personal Travel" is used as proxy of tourism services. The corresponding nomenclature in UNCTAD/WTO BPM statistics is: "Travel, Personal, Other (other than health and education)".

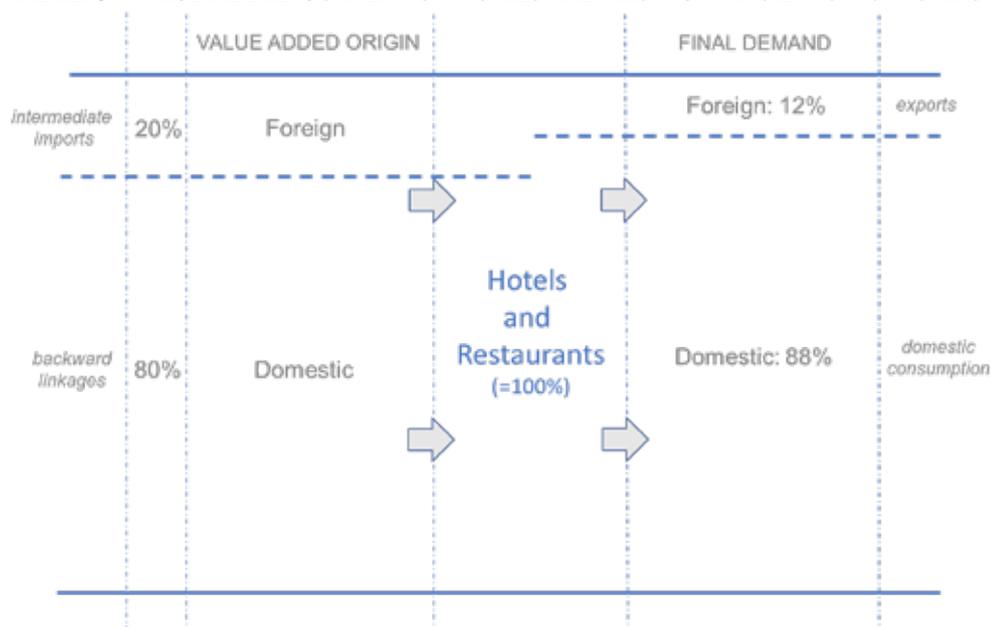
Additional insight on Belize's export structure can be gathered by looking at value added trade data, which slices up export value into foreign vs. domestic origin and consumption. The hospitality services sector, e.g. hotels and restaurants, is an exceptional case in point, as it presents a rather complex composition of value added.

Twenty per cent of hotels and restaurants' exports value has foreign origin, as embedded in imports of intermediate goods and services (table 2). This figure, against a sector's global average of 15%, reveals a relatively high degree of backward integration into global value chains (GVCs). The remaining 80% is

⁹ For full analysis, please see section 2.1 "Contribution to GDP".

contributed by domestic industries via backward linkages with suppliers. If properly enabled, the fisheries and aquaculture sector may play an important role in supplying fresh and health food options for tourists.¹⁰

TABLE 3: VALUE ADDED CONTENT OF HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS EXPORTS: FOREIGN VS. DOMESTIC, 2015



Source: UNCTAD analysis on data UNCTAD Eora-GVC Database, 2018

Downstream integration is more limited, as the majority of the sector’s output is consumed domestically (88%). Indeed, despite sustained growth in tourism, foreign demand only absorbs a minor part of the sector’s output (12%).¹¹ This suggest the existence of well-developed forward linkages with (domestic) customers, or, most likely, of large private household consumption.¹²

5. ENVIRONMENT

The uniqueness of coastal and marine ecosystems in Belize is one of the most important attractions for tourist traveling there from overseas. The Belize Barrier Reserve system features UNESCO List of World Heritage Sites since 1996. The country also has two wetland sites listed under the Ramsar Convention. There are nine Marine Protected Areas (MPA) in the country that are directly managed or co-managed by the Belize Fisheries Department (BFD). Three marine national parks, two natural monuments, twelve fish spawning aggregations sites and two marine wildlife sanctuaries were also declared. All the above cover a surface of some 4,051 km² (or 21.6 % of Belize territorial seas).

As mentioned above, the sun, sea and cruise tourism combined with rainforest and cultural heritage represents the lion share of Belize’s touristic offer. Niche tourism activities such as marine sports, sports fishing and sea

¹⁰ Access to national input-output or supply-use tables will enable us to answer this type of questions

¹¹ This figure differs from results of the last Business Establishment Survey conducted by the Statistical Insitute of Belize in 2016, according to which 55% of sales of “Accomodation and Food Service” activities originate from exports. This may be due to the different sector perimeter used.

¹² Ibidem, note 7

life watching excursions can represent additional opportunities for the country, provided that national regulations are properly enforced and further developed.¹³

In December 2019, the Government of Belize voted to implement an indefinite moratorium on all new oil exploration in its waters, in order to safeguard the marine environment and further promote dive tourism. By doing so, it became one of the first developing countries to turn away from oil and seek to embrace environmentally-sustainable development pathways by protecting the ocean environment in line with Sustainable Development Goal 14.

6. RELEVANT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Surprisingly, Belize is neither a Member nor an Observer of the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO). Belize is Party to the following Agreements:

1. International Trade Treaties:
 - a. World Trade Organisation (WTO) and goods and services related Uruguay Round Agreements (1994). While the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) includes tourism as one of its sectors, the Belize GATS schedule does not include any bound commitments on tourism services (see Belize GATS schedule GATS/SC/10 and Rev.1 of 2016)
 - b. The Economic Partnership Agreement between the EU and CARIFOURM (2008)
 - c. Founding Member of CARICOM and the Member of the Central American Integration System (SICA)
 - d. Various Free Trade Agreements with Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Guatemala and Venezuela.
2. Law of the Sea:
 - e. Convention on the Law of the Sea (1982).¹⁴
3. Cultural heritage:
 - f. Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972).
4. Environment:
 - g. Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)
 - h. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (1975)
 - i. Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (1971).

7. MARITIME TOURISM STATISTICS: A WISH-LIST

Access to the following statistics, ideally time series, will allow further refining of the analysis presented in this factsheet and fill remaining knowledge gaps on the maritime and coastal tourism segment:

¹³ For further analysis of the national regulatory framework on tourism, see UNCLOS and Belize's legal and institutional framework for ocean affairs: Including Legal and Institutional Requirements for Sustainable Marine Fisheries, Sustainable Marine Aquaculture, Seafood Processing and Marine and Coastal Tourism (2018). Available at: <https://unctad.org/en/pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=1949>

¹⁴ For further analysis of the law of the sea and multilateral environmental agreements see UNCTAD-DOALOS (2018).

- BFD: Earnings from licensing fees of sport fishing/other maritime-licensed activities;
- BTB: Raw survey data underlying analysis published in BTB (2017);
- SIB: Granular employment statistics from Labour Force Survey (April 2018) (further disaggregation of item “Tourism” and geographical units);
- SIB: Granular enterprise statistics from Business Establishment Survey (2016) (further disaggregation of geographical units),
- SIB: National input-output/supply-use tables;
- SIB/CBB: Granular balance of payments (BoP) statistics.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BFD	Belize Fisheries Department
BPM	Balance of payments
BTB	Belize Tourism Board
CBB	Central Bank of Belize
DOALOS	Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea
GATS	General Agreement on Trade Services
GVC	Global value chain
IATA	International Air Transport Association
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Association
MPA	Marine protected area
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNWTO	United Nations World Tourism Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization
WTTC	World Travel and Tourism Council
SIB	Statistical Institute of Belize
SIDS	Small Island Developing States

REFERENCES

BTB (2017)	Belize Tourism Board (2017), Travel and Tourism Statistics Digest
ECORYS (2013)	Study in support of policy measures for maritime and coastal tourism at EU level
UNWTO (2017)	2017 International Tourism Results: the highest in seven years
UNCTAD-DOALOS (2018)	UNCLOS and Belize’s legal and institutional framework for ocean affairs: Including Legal and Institutional Requirements for Sustainable Marine Fisheries, Sustainable Marine Aquaculture, Seafood Processing and Marine and Coastal Tourism (2018)
WTTC (2017)	Travel and Tourism - Economic Impact 2017 Belize