Coastal and marine tourism and impacts on Small Island Development States
OVERVIEW

• Macro-economic review of the OECS in the time of COVID-19

• Impact of COVID-19 on the tourism sector in the OECS

• Strategic repositioning

• Owning the future [sustainably]
Profile of OECS – SIDS
World Trade Volumes and GDP
Economic Outlook for OECS Member States

Real GDP growth (Annual percent change)

Antigua and Barbuda
Dominica
Grenada
St Kitts and Nevis
Saint Lucia
St Vincent and the Grenadines
Remittance Flows

**Figure 4:** Remittance Flows to Low-and Middle-Income Countries Expected to Decline in 2020 (Source: World Bank)
Forecast for International Tourism Receipts

Figure 15: 2020 Forecast for International Tourism Receipts and Previous Global Crises
(Source: WTO)
Figure 16: The percent of total time not moving has jumped from an average of 20% to more than 60% for vessels larger than 10,000 gross tonnes. (Source: IHS Markit)
Contribution of Tourism to Employment and GDP

Figure 17: Percentage Share of Total Employment 2018
(Source: World Travel & Tourism Council Data Gateway)

Figure 18: Percentage Share of Total Contribution to GDP 2018
(Source: World Travel & Tourism Council)
Impact Assessment and Limits

Challenges with an immediate assessment include the lack of reliable data from industry and Central Government.

**Observed Impacts**

- **Tourism**: Complete closure of the sector
- **Manufacturing**: Closure of the Sector [with few exceptions]
- **Agriculture**: Reduced activity in the sector
- **Social Sector**: Health and Educational impacts both severely impacted
Strategic Repositioning

Mainstream suitability into tourism

Force Multipliers

Improve Value added content

Business process re-engineering

Trade Policy

Multilateral Support

Resilience Fund

National Program

Fair WTO Rules

Concessionary finance for re-tooling the sector

Enhanced development cooperation
Owing – a sustainable future

• The OECS [like most SIDS] is at a critical inflection point

• The crisis again exposes our economic and social vulnerability

Next Steps -

• Stimulate interregional tourism

• Mainstream sustainability in tourism 2.0 [ blue biotrade/ecotourism/heritage

• Link tourism to restoration services and responsible fisheries and MPAs
THANK YOU

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