



PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

REGIONAL SEMINAR FOR THE CARIBBEAN

Facilitating Investment in SDG Projects: Spotlight on Small Island Developing States

Saint Kitts and Nevis, 26–28 November 2019



DAY ONE (8:30 – 9:00 Registration)

Tuesday, 26 November

9:00 – 9:30 **Opening**

- ▶ Ms. Tessa Jacques, President, Caribbean Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (CAIPA)
- ▶ Ms. Jasemin Weekes, Caribbean Export Board Member for St. Kitts & Nevis
- ▶ Mr. Paul Wessendorp, Chief, Investment Promotion Section (IPS), Division on Investment and Enterprise (DIAE), UNCTAD
- ▶ Mr. Stanley Jacobs, Director of Investment Promotion, St. Kitts Investment Promotion Agency, SKIPPA
- ▶ The Hon. Shawn Richards, Deputy Prime Minister, St. Kitts and Nevis

9:30 – 10:45 **Investing in Small Island Developing States (SIDS)**

FDI trends, investment in SIDS and the SDGs

- ▶ Mr. Paul Wessendorp, UNCTAD

Role of partnerships and the SAMOA Pathway in advancing the implementation of the SDGs in SIDS

- ▶ Ms. Tishka Francis, Head of the SIDS Sub-Programme Office of the High Representative for the LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS

10:45 – 11:15 **Group photo and coffee break**

11:15 – 12:45 **Facilitating investment in SDG projects**

This session will present UNCTAD findings and recommendations on investment facilitation in SDG projects and tools developed by UNCTAD to facilitate business.

- ▶ Ms. Natalia Guerra, Senior Capacity-building Coordinator, IPS, DIAE, UNCTAD
- ▶ Mr. Ian Richards, Economic Affairs Officer, Business Facilitation Section, DIAE, UNCTAD

12:45 – 14:00 **Lunch break**

14:00 – 15:30 **SDG-related investment in the Caribbean: sector focus**

With a regional and sectoral focus, this session will deal with recent research and case studies on investment promotion and facilitation strengthening value chains in the region and beyond. Special attention will be given to Agribusiness, the Blue Economy and Infrastructure.

- ▶ Mr. Arno Boersma, Island Impact, Founding Partner, previously Director of the UNDP Centre of Excellence for SIDS (via video conference)
- ▶ Mr. Emmanuel Hess, International Consultant, UNCTAD

15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee break**

16:00 – 17:30 **Partner initiative on investment facilitation**

This session aims at portraying some of the regional initiatives that contribute to the improvement of the quality of life, the business climate and the competitiveness of the region to attract sustainable investment.

Moderator: Ms. Tessa Jacques, President, CAIPA

- ▶ Ms. Racquel Moses, CEO, The Caribbean Climate-Smart Accelerator (via video conference)
- ▶ Mr. Vassel Stewart, President, Caribbean Agribusiness Association

17:30 – 18:30 **Networking reception offered by St. Kitts & Nevis Chamber of Industry and Commerce**





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DAY TWO

Wednesday, 27 November

9:00 – 10:30 **The role of Special Economic Zones**

This session aims at exchanging experiences and best practices in establishing and managing SEZs as one of the tools used to facilitate investment. The challenge: how to evolve to sustainable SEZs?

Moderator: Mr. Paul Wessendorp, UNCTAD

- ▶ Ms. Maria Camila Moreno, Executive Director, Latin America Free Zones Association
- ▶ Ms. Kelli-Dawn Hamilton, Manager, Policy & Business Advocacy, JAMPRO, Jamaica
- ▶ Mr. Giovanni Boekhoudt, Client Manager, CURINDE, Curaçao

10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee break**

11:00 – 12:30 **Fostering business linkages for the Sustainable Development Goals**

This session will discuss challenges that countries face in ensuring business linkages with foreign investment. It will also consider ways in which foreign investment and business linkages can empower women to foster gender equality and inclusion.

Moderator: Ms. Natalia Guerra, UNCTAD

- ▶ Dr. Denise Chevannes, Manager, UN Women/EU Win-Win Programme: Gender Equality Means Good Business, Jamaica
- ▶ Dr. Shawna Lake, Attorney at Law, former CEO, SKIPA
- ▶ Mr. Andrew Satney, Executive Director, Chamber of Industry and Commerce, St. Kitts-Nevis

12:30 – 14:00 **Lunch break**

14:00 – 15:30 **Facilitating Investment Financing in SDG projects**

This session aims at exploring various and dynamic sources of financing that Caribbean IPAs could consider to better facilitate investment in SDG projects.

Moderator: Ms. Angela Musgrove, Senior Vice President – Investor Services, Invest Turks and Caicos Islands

- ▶ Ms. Suzanne Shaw, CEO, The Leap Co, Jamaica (via video conference)
- ▶ Mr. Ellis Hazel, CEO, Whitegate Development Corporation
- ▶ Mr. Les Khan, CEO, St. Kitts Citizenship by Investment Programme, Ministry of Finance

15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee break**

16:00 – 18:00 **Site visit: Island Tour** sponsored by Whitegate Development Corporation

A site visit will provide the opportunity to see and learn from a local experience related to promoting and facilitating investment.





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DAY THREE

Thursday, 28 November

9:00 – 10:30 Reform of the International Investment Agreements (IIAs) Regime

This session reviews trends in IIAs and investor-State dispute settlement (ISDS) cases, presents UNCTAD’s policy tools for IIA reform, and flags progress towards sustainable development-oriented reform of the international investment regime.

- **Overviews**
- **Spotlight on dispute settlement**
- ▶ Ms. Diana Rosert, Economic Affairs Officer, IIA Section, DIAE, UNCTAD (via video conference)

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 12:30 IIAs and ISDS in the Caribbean: Lessons for Investment Promotion and Facilitation

This session intends to share the experience of Caribbean countries with IIAs, highlighting the orientation of old-generation treaties and approaches taken in more recent treaties, treaty models and negotiations. It will also review the experience of Caribbean countries with ISDS. Lessons for investment promotion and facilitation will be discussed.

Moderator: Ms. Nadine Agard-Juillerat, Deputy Executive Director, Invest SVG

- ▶ Dr. Chantal Ononaiwu, Trade Policy & Legal Specialist, Office of Trade Negotiations (OTN), CARICOM Secretariat (via video conference)
- ▶ Ms. Sanya K. N. Alleyne Technical Trade Adviser, GIZ, Germany

12:30 – 13:00 Wrap up

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 – 17:30 CAIPA General Assembly, including a session on CAIPA-UNCTAD Cooperation