

Post-COVID-19: IPAs Adapting to the New Normal

Regional Webinar for Caribbean IPAs

CARIBBEAN
EXPORT
PROMOTION AGENCIES



PROGRAMME

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, UNCTAD has been monitoring foreign direct investment (FDI) trends and prospects, multinational enterprise (MNE) operations, investment policies and investment promotion practices and strategies to inform governments and facilitate the exchange of best practices. As part of this effort, UNCTAD organized on 7 April 2020 a *High-level Brainstorming on Investment Facilitation and Promotion: Challenges and Actions in Times of Pandemic Crisis*. Outputs of this meeting, together with UNCTAD research on the online response to the crisis by national investment promotion agencies (IPAs), resulted in an advisory report published as a special issue of UNCTAD's IPA Observer entitled: *Investment Promotion Agencies: Striving to Overcome the COVID-19 Challenge*. As follow up activities, regional webinars are being conducted. This webinar for the Caribbean region, organized in partnership with the Caribbean Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (CAIPA), is the second one in this series.

The webinars intend to: (a) promote the exchange of IPA experiences in the response to the COVID-19 crisis; (b) enhance the

sharing of best practices; and (c) provide an opportunity to discuss COVID-19 induced changes to future IPA operations and strategies.

Questions to be addressed include:

- How did IPAs respond to COVID-19 related challenges in the region?
- Which best practices are there to stay?
- What will be the new normal for IPAs post-COVID-19?
- Which sectors/targets will be the new focus?
- How can UNCTAD help?

Background UNCTAD documents:

- [IPA Observer Special Issue 8: Investment Promotion Agencies: Striving to Overcome the COVID-19 Challenge, UNCTAD \(2020\).](#)
- [World Investment Report 2020: International Production Beyond the Pandemic, UNCTAD \(2020\).](#)

10.00 - 10.15 **Welcome**

Investment Policies and Prospects Beyond the Pandemic

Mr. James Zhan, Director, Division on Investment and Enterprise (DIAE), UNCTAD

10.15 - 10.25 **IPAs Adapting to the New Normal**

Mr. Paul Wessendorp, Chief, Investment Promotion Section (IPS), DIAE, UNCTAD

10.25 - 10.30 **A Targeted Push to Promote Investment Post-COVID-19**

Ms. Tessa Jacques, President, CAIPA

10.30 - 10.40 **Promoting the Ocean Economy: An Island Strategy**

Mr. Ken Poonoosamy, Ag. Chief Executive Officer, Economic Development Board
Mauritius

10.40 - 10.50 **The Blue Economy: A Caribbean Perspective**

Mr. Justin Ram, International Expert, Former Director of Economics at the Caribbean
Development Bank

10.50 - 11.00 **High-tech agriculture in the Caribbean**

Mr. Vassel Stewart, President, Caribbean Agri-Business Association (CABA)

11.00 - 11.30 **Caribbean IPAs in the New Normal**

- Ms. Tessa Jacques, General Director, Centre de Facilitation d'Investissements,
CFI Haïti.
- Dr. Leroy Almendarez, Executive Director, **Belize Invest.**
- Mrs. Alana Lansiquot, Investment Services Manager, **Invest St. Lucia.**
- Mr. Ricardo Durrant, Manager, Sales and Promotion Support Unit, Jamaica Promotion
Corporation, **JAMPRO.**
- Mrs. Cathyann Alexander-Pierre, Senior Specialist, Investment Promotion, **Grenada
Investment Development Corporation.**

11.30 - 11.45 **Q&As, wrap up and closing**

Moderator: Ms. Natalia Guerra, Economic Affairs Officer, IPS, DIAE, UNCTAD