



2 -3 February 2026

Venue: Convention Center of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Avenida Independencia No. 752, Estancia San Gerónimo
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

Regional expert meeting on advancing the measurement of productive capacities in small island developing States (SIDS)

UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has been calling for a narrative change for the development of SIDS, including in the context of the [UNCTAD Strategy for SIDS](#). The strategy aims to maximize synergies and exploit a paradigm shift in development policy towards building socioeconomic resilience by fostering productive capacities and structural economic transformation and enhancing SIDS' international economic engagement, with an aim to achieve inclusive growth and sustainable development. As part of the efforts to operationalize the Strategy and assess the gaps in productive capacities, UNCTAD applies a data-driven and evidence-based approach, combining the multidimensional Productive Capacities Index (PCI) and a closer examination of domestic policies and strategies.

The PCI is designed to assess countries' abilities to produce diverse and high-value added goods and services, enabling evidence-based policymaking for inclusive growth, structural transformation and sustainable development. The PCI serves as the cornerstone of UNCTAD's efforts to support developing economies in building and strengthening their productive capacities and harnessing comparative advantages.

As part of the United Nations Development Account (UNDA) project, "Stronger and Greener Productive Capacities for Just Transitions in Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS)," UNCTAD, in collaboration with partners, is developing a satellite PCI tailored specifically to SIDS. In statistical terms, a satellite index refers to a complementary analytical framework built alongside a core PCI to capture specific dimensions or group-specific characteristics that the main index may not fully reflect.

This initiative recognizes the distinctive structural features of SIDS—such as small size, remoteness, resource constraints, vulnerability to external shocks, and high exposure to climate risks—that are often insufficiently captured in conventional indices.





The SIDS satellite PCI will complement the existing PCI, offering a more nuanced and SIDS-specific lens through which to understand and support addressing their key binding constraints and productive development pathways. It aims to better inform national policies and strategies by aligning measurement tools with the real economic and environmental contexts of these vulnerable economies.

This initiative directly supports the outcomes of UNCTAD 16, as well as implementation of the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS), which highlights the importance of developing productive capacities in paragraphs 7, 21, 23, and 25, as well as the need for capacity building to strengthen data governance and management in SIDS (paragraphs 19 and G). It is also aligned with the above-mentioned UNCTAD's Strategy for SIDS, particularly Pillar 6.1, which focuses on identifying and addressing gaps in productive capacities.

» Objective and expected outcomes of the regional meeting

The objective of the regional meeting is to sensitize representatives from the four beneficiary countries of the project, along with experts from international and regional organizations and academia about productive capacities-centred policies and forge consensus on the way forward. More specifically, the event discusses the preliminary version of the SIDS satellite PCI, its policy implications, and the challenges associated with measuring productive capacities in SIDS. This discussion builds on the outcomes of the [PCI Statistical and Technical Advisory Group \(STAG\) meeting](#) held on 23 June 2025 in Lisbon and the [Brainstorming session on the development of a SIDS satellite Productive Capacities Index \(PCI\)](#) held online on 30 July 2025. It also draws on the continuing interactions with the four pilot countries on the two statistical workstreams of the project: the conceptualization of the Satellite and the dashboards on the availability of input indicators.

The meeting is expected to generate expert insights to enhance the methodological soundness and policy relevance of the SIDS satellite PCI and its use in policy formulation and implementation. It will also facilitate experience sharing among participating SIDS. Participants will contribute to refining its alignment with UNCTAD's conceptual framework on productive capacities—particularly in relation to the eight core categories and the selection and mapping of input indicators. The presentations and discussions at the meeting will primarily build on a background report documenting the preliminary version of the Satellite PCI, prepared following the guidance of the [PCI Statistical and Technical Advisory Group \(STAG\) meeting](#) held on 23 June 2025 in Lisbon and the [Brainstorming session on the development of a SIDS satellite Productive Capacities Index \(PCI\)](#) held online on 30 July 2025. This report will be shared with participants in advance.

In addition, the meeting will support the formulation of National Productive Capacities Gap Assessments (NPCGAs) and the development of Holistic Productive Capacities Development Programmes (HPCDPs) for beneficiary countries starting in 2026 and beyond. Therefore, this event also serves as a launching pad for UNCTAD's support to SIDS under the current project framework and in the context of the UNCTAD Strategy for SIDS.



Programme

Day 1 – Monday, 2 February 2026

9 – 10.30 a.m.	Opening Session: Strategic Context for Measuring Productive Capacities in SIDS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• International mandates for strengthening and measuring productive capacities (outcomes of the ABAS, UNCTAD's Strategy for SIDS, and UNCTAD 16) – 15 min• UNCTAD's overall programme for fostering productive capacities – 10 min• UNCTAD project: "Stronger and greener productive capacities for just transitions in Caribbean SIDS" – 10 min• Developing a Satellite Productive Capacities Index for SIDS: Framework and methodological approach – 20 min• Discussion – 25 min
10.30 – 10.45 a.m.	Coffee break
10.45 – 11.55 a.m.	Session 2: Measuring Natural Capital <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNCTAD: Satellite PCI findings – 20 min• Country presentations (Jamaica, Antigua and Barbuda, Trinidad and Tobago, Dominican Republic) – 20 min total• Discussion – 30 min
11.55 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Session 3: Measuring Structural Change as Driver of Productive Capacities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNCTAD: Satellite PCI findings – 20 min• Country presentations (Jamaica, Antigua and Barbuda, Trinidad and Tobago, Dominican Republic) – 20 min total• Discussion – 25 min
1 – 2 p.m.	Lunch break
2 – 3.10 p.m.	Session 4: Measuring Transport Capacities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNCTAD: Satellite PCI findings – 20 min• Country presentations (Jamaica, Antigua and Barbuda, Trinidad and Tobago, Dominican Republic) – 20 min total• Discussion – 30 min
3.10 – 3.30 p.m.	Coffee break
3.30 – 4.40 p.m.	Session 5: Measuring ICT Capacities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNCTAD: Satellite PCI findings – 20 min• Country presentations (Jamaica, Antigua and Barbuda, Trinidad and Tobago, Dominican Republic) – 20 min total• Discussion – 30 min



Day 2 – Tuesday, 3 February 2026

9 – 10.10 a.m.	Session 6: Measuring Climate Resilience Capacities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNCTAD: Satellite PCI findings – 20 min• Country presentations (Jamaica, Antigua and Barbuda, Trinidad and Tobago, Dominican Republic) – 20 min total• Discussion – 30 min
10.10 – 10.30 a.m.	Coffee break
10.30 – 11.40 a.m.	Session 7: Measuring Energy Capacities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNCTAD: Satellite PCI findings – 20 min• Country presentations (Jamaica, Antigua and Barbuda, Trinidad and Tobago, Dominican Republic) – 20 min total• Discussion – 30 min
11.40 a.m. – 12.50 p.m.	Session 8: Measuring Financial Resilience Capacities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNCTAD: Satellite PCI findings – 20 min• Country presentations (Jamaica, Antigua and Barbuda, Trinidad and Tobago, Dominican Republic) – 20 min total• Discussion – 30 min
12.50 – 2 p.m.	Lunch break
2 – 3.10 p.m.	Session 9: Measuring Human Capital, Private Sector and Institutional Capacities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNCTAD: Satellite PCI findings – 20 min• Country presentations (Jamaica, Antigua and Barbuda, Trinidad and Tobago, Dominican Republic) – 20 min total• Discussion – 30 min
3.10 – 3.30 p.m.	Coffee break
3.30 – 4 p.m.	Session 10: The Way Forward – Advancing the Measurement of Productive Capacities in SIDS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Way forward with the SIDS Satellite PCI – 5 minutes• Upcoming activities in the project – 5 minutes• Discussion – 10 min• Conclusions and closing remarks by UNCTAD and MIREX – 10 min