

**Multi-year Expert Meeting  
on Transport, Trade Logistics and  
Trade Facilitation  
8th Session**

**Climate Change Adaptation for Seaports  
in Support of the 2030 Agenda  
for Sustainable Development**

27–28 October 2020

**The Special Case of Small Island  
Developing States and Other Small  
Island Economies – Regional  
Perspectives**

Presentation by

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Climate Change Adaptation for Seaports in Support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

## The Special Case of Small Island Developing States and Other Small Island Economies – Regional Perspectives

Presented by

Willard Phillips  
UNECLAC

UNCTAD Multi-Year Expert Meeting

Wednesday 28th October 2020



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## Three Issues...

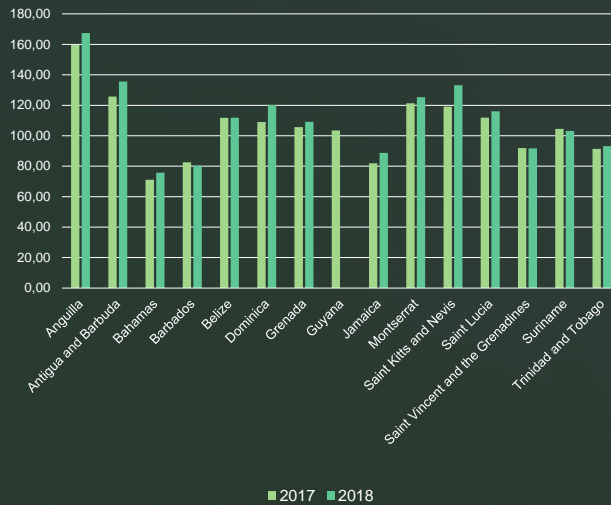
- ❑ Criticality of Transportation Infrastructure for SIDS
- ❑ Vulnerability of Transportation Infrastructure
- ❑ Covid 19 imposes greater requirements for adaptation of Seaports



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# Transportation Infrastructure is Critical in SIDS

Trade Openness - Caribbean Countries: 2017 & 2018



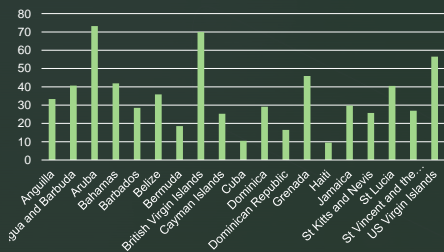
Source: UNCTAD



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# Tourism is a Key Sector

Tourism Percentage Contribution to GDP - 2018



Source: WTTC and ECLAC's Calculations



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## Critical for Cruisers – Large Share of Passengers



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## Transportation Infrastructure is Vulnerable

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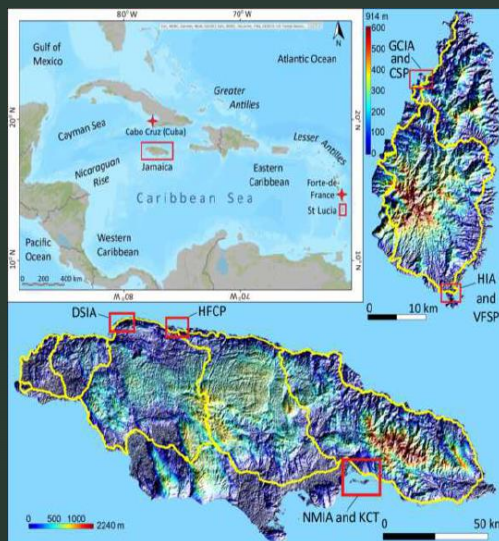
## Climate Change Implications

- ❑ Adaptation needed to threats from sea level rise
- ❑ Need to build in domestic and regional redundancy in transportation



## Regional Adaptation Efforts

UNCTAD's  
Regional Initiative:  
- Climate Change  
Impacts and  
Adaptation for  
Coastal Transport  
Infrastructure in  
the Caribbean



Source: Monioudi I.N. et al, 2017

## ► Covid 19 - An Important Implication for the Caribbean

Low liner connectivity indices for many Caribbean SIDS imply that reduced import capacity due to Covid 19, could possibly motivate further consolidation of short-sea commercial shipping services, with reduced shipping options for many Caribbean ports over the medium to long term.



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## Key Messages

- ❑ SIDS seaports manage considerable numbers of passengers relative to commercial cargos. The reality of Covid 19 has important implications for adaptation, as public health considerations for passengers at seaports become even more important
- ❑ Given natural vulnerabilities, and inspite of small hinterlands, SIDS also need to build *both* domestic and regional redundancies. This is a challenge for small shipping markets spread across large maritime geographic regions.

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**Thank You!**

