

Ad Hoc Expert Meeting on

**Climate Change Adaptation for
International Transport:
Preparing for the Future**

16 to 17 April 2019

**Climate Change Adaptation for International
Transport- Preparing for the Future:
Perspective from Caribbean SIDS**

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Climate Change Adaptation for International Transport -Preparing for the Future: Perspectives from Caribbean SIDS



Presented by
Willard Phillips
UNECLAC
to the

UNCTAD Ad Hoc Expert Meeting, Geneva
April 17th, 2019

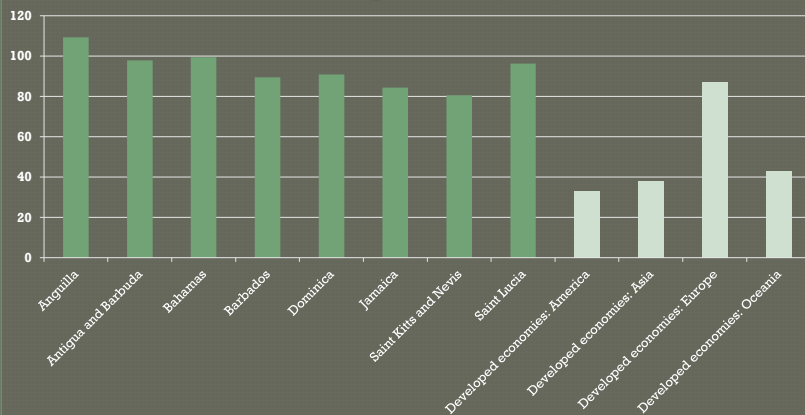
Four Issues...

- Criticality of Transportation Infrastructure for SIDS
- Vulnerability of Transportation Infrastructure
- Transportation Infrastructure (mainly ports) handle large numbers of passengers relative to commercial cargo
- Impacts of natural events on transportation infrastructure



Transportation Infrastructure is Critical in SIDS

Indicator of Trade Openness: Total Value of Trade as a Percentage of GDP (2013)



Source: UNCTAD

Vulnerability of Transportation Infrastructure



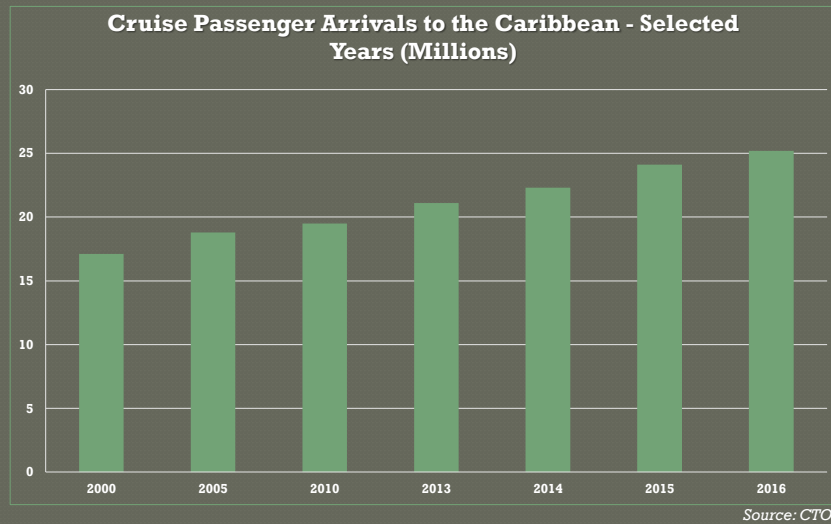
Most Caribbean Airports are Located on the Coast...



Critical for Cruisers – Large Share of Passengers



Cruise Passenger Arrivals to the Caribbean



Impacts of Natural Events on Transportation Infrastructure



..And impacts can be severe



Impacts from Natural Hazards - 2017

- One of the most devastating hurricane seasons
- Seventeen (17) named storms, six (6) of which affected 10 states
- Damage and losses exceeding \$15 Billion
- Disruption of Trade and Passenger Flows
- Destruction to tourism infrastructure, agricultural crops, roads and bridges, electricity and telecommunications
- Loss of life – more than 200 deaths

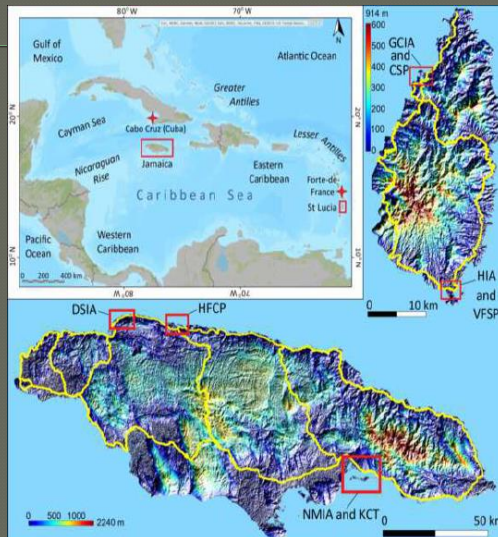
Climate Change Implications

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



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

Conclusions

- The peculiarities of the sub-region make transportation infrastructure extremely critical for Caribbean SIDS
- Strategies for reducing vulnerabilities, enhancing resilience, and improving economic efficiency are necessary for sustaining economic and social gains.

THANK YOU

