



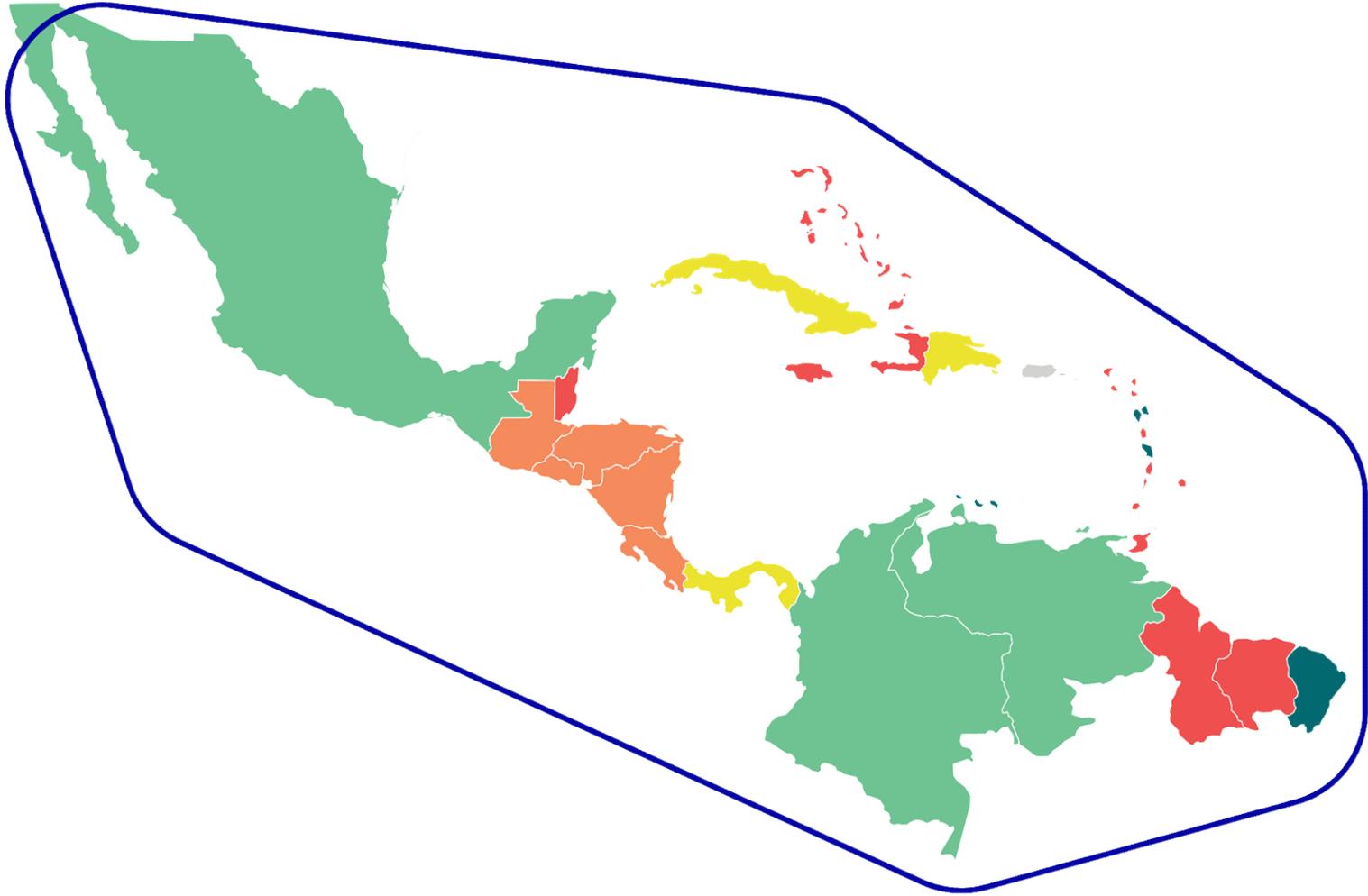
# Webinar on COVID-19 and Maritime Transport:

Disruptions and Resilience in Latin America and the  
Caribbean

Greater Caribbean's response to COVID 19  
and its outlook for the future

Rodolfo Sabonge  
Association of Caribbean States (ACS)  
December 10, 2020

# The Greater Caribbean



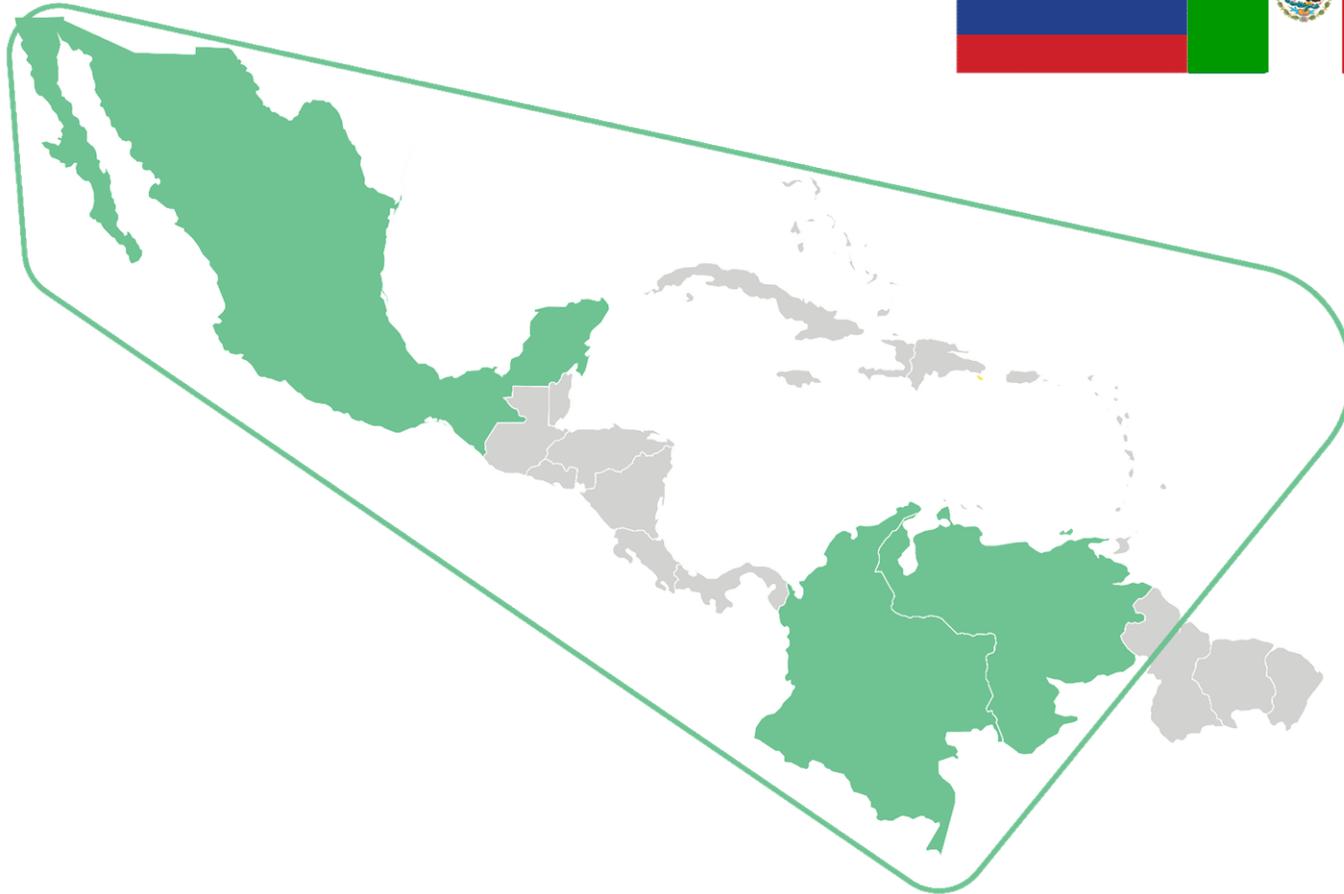
# ACS Members - CARICOM



# ACS Members - Central America



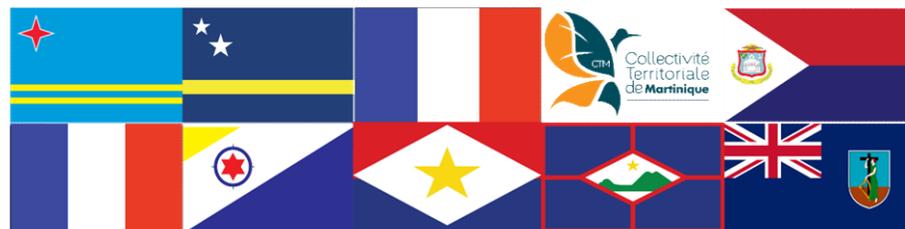
# ACS Members - Group of Three (G3)



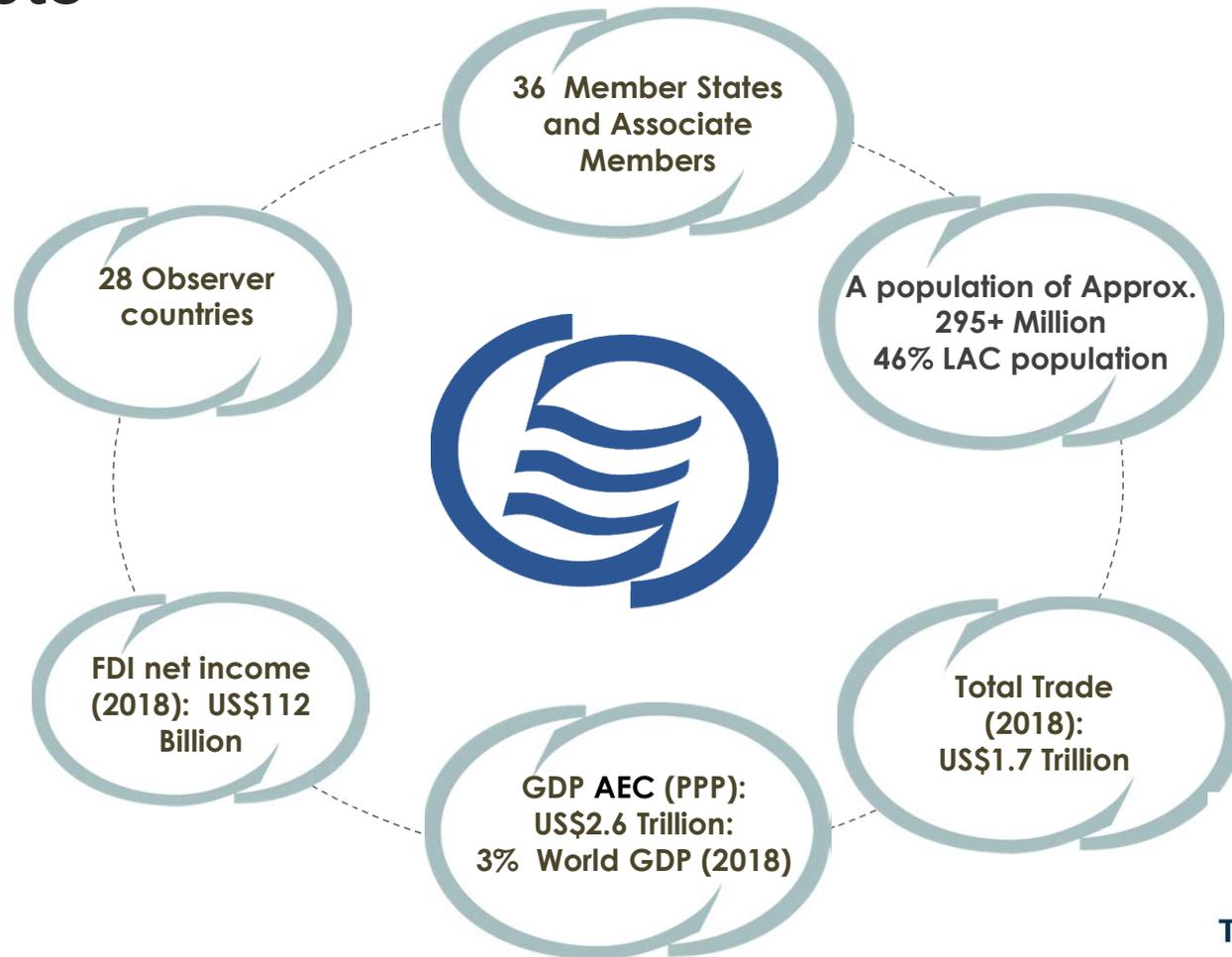
# ACS Members – Non-aligned



# Associate Members



# ACS key facts



**THE WORLD BANK**

Source: Indicators as per most recent year (2018). Consulted: 05/05/2020 : <https://data.worldbank.org/>

# ACS key facts

/2



## 28 Observer countries:

- Argentina
- Belarus
- Bolivia
- Brazil
- Canada
- Chile
- Ecuador
- Egypt
- Finland
- India
- Italy
- Japan
- Kazakhstan
- The Kingdom of the Netherlands
- Korea
- Morocco
- Palestine
- Peru
- Russian Federation
- Saudi Arabia
- Serbia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Turkey
- Ukraine
- United Arab Emirates (UAE)
- United Kingdom
- Uruguay

# ACS Priority areas



- **Sustainable Tourism**
- **Trade Development and External Economic Relations**
- **Transport**
- **Disaster Risk Reduction**
- **Caribbean Sea Commission**
- **Cooperation**

# THE IMPACT OF COVID-19

A water droplet is shown falling from the top center, creating a series of concentric ripples that spread outwards. The background is a dark, gradient blue.

HEALTH

SUPPLY / DEMAND FOR GOODS AND SERVICES

TOURISM / LOGISTICS / SUPPLY CHAINS / WORK

COMMODITY PRICES / FOREIGN TRADE & FISCAL REVENUES

ECONOMY / EMPLOYMENT / POVERTY



## Impact: Trends on Trade in the Greater Caribbean

- Diversion away from traditional source markets
- Diversion away from luxury goods
- Increase in nationalistic approach to trade
- MSMEs, with account for 90% of employment with the region, were the most affected by the pandemic

**Opportunity: Increased intra-regional trade**

# Outlook in the post COVID era



**Regional solidarity and coordinated cooperation is key to survive the post-COVID era**

- Comprehensive assessments of the effects of COVID-19
- Accelerate the transition to automation and digitization. Digital transformation is vital.
- Develop regional value chains.

# Outlook in the post COVID era

/2



**Regional solidarity and coordinated cooperation is key to survive the post-COVID era**

## **Develop a Maritime / Logistics / Tourism Strategy**

- Trade and Tourism Value Chains
- Multimodal Transport
- Physical Infrastructure
- Digital Transformation / Trade Facilitation
- Sustainable Development
- Environmental Protection of the Caribbean Sea
- Climate Change Risk Mitigation
- Disaster Impact Reduction

# Outlook in the post COVID era

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## **Regional solidarity and coordinated cooperation is key to survive the post-COVID era**

- Support to micro, small and medium enterprises, promote new business and cooperative models as drivers for job generation.
- Strengthen the Regional integration process with assistance from donors and strategic partners.
- Strengthen production capabilities and develop new strategic sectors.
- Inclusive and sustainable development and governance coherent with the 2030 Agenda.
- Promote the creation of Public-private partnerships, bring the private sector to the table.

**Enhanced regional cooperation and coordination must be at the core of recovery.**



## Cooperation and the Way Forward – ACS as pivotal coordination mechanism

- Strategic and unique platform for cooperation, consultation and concerted action in the Greater Caribbean Region.
- Amplified impact to programs and projects.
- A young, diversified, and dynamic region with appetite for innovation and entrepreneurship.
- One stop window for the Greater Caribbean region: the Greater Caribbean as a single unified brand.

# Proposed Lines of Action



## Increase Competitiveness of the Region

(e-commerce, process harmonization, international standardization)

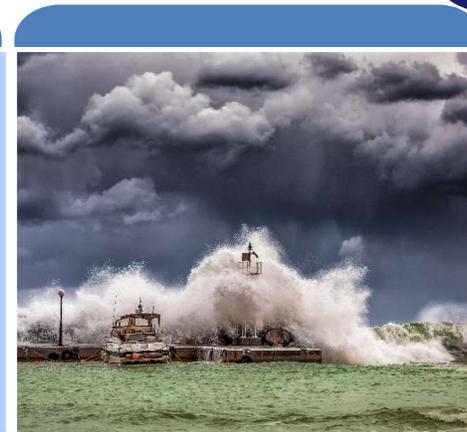


## Attract FDI to the Region

(nearshoring, regionalization of trade, implementation of PPPs)



## Develop and Implement Sustainable Tourism Strategy



## Mitigate the effects of climate change in the Great Caribbean

(Disaster Risk Reduction, Caribbean Sea Commission)

**DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION**

**IMPROVE CONNECTIVITY AND LOGISTICS**



Thank you