

**BUILDING BUSINESS
TRANSFORMING LIVES
FOR A RESILIENT CARIBBEAN**



**GCF Regional Dialogue with the Caribbean
Saint Kitts and Nevis**

17 – 20 March 2025

TRADE AND BUSINESS FORUM

**Trade as Part of the Climate Solution in the Caribbean: What do
Caribbean companies need to know to seize opportunities in the green
transition in the region**

www.carib-export.com



Caribbean Export: Who we are



Antigua



Bahamas



Barbados



Belize



Dominica



Dom. Republic



Grenada



Guyana



Haiti



Jamaica



St. Kitts



St. Lucia



St. Vincent



Suriname



Trinidad

Caribbean Export is the regional trade and investment promotion agency focused on accelerating the economic transformation of the Caribbean. We work closely with businesses to increase exports, attract investment, and contribute towards the creation of jobs to build a resilient Caribbean.

Our Mission

To provide innovative, targeted initiatives designed to enhance Caribbean business growth, sustainability and job creation

Caribbean Trade Overview

- CARICOM's trade in 2023 highlighted both strengths and challenges, with \$40.2 billion in exports and \$49.6 billion in imports, reflecting a trade deficit.
- Guyana led exports with \$17.4 billion (43.4%), driven by its booming oil industry.
- The region's exports were dominated by Crude Petroleum (\$15.1B), LNG (\$3.82B), and Gold (\$2.75B), underscoring reliance on natural resources.
- Imports were led by Bituminous Petroleum (\$8.97B), Motorboats (\$2.25B), and Cargo Containers (\$1.42B), highlighting dependency on energy and transport goods.
- Intra-regional trade remains low, hindered by logistics, trade barriers, and production gaps among other challenges.



The Changing Role of Trade in the Caribbean

- Caribbean countries face a rapidly changing export environment, creating both opportunities and challenges.
- To remain competitive, firms must adapt to cleaner technologies, digitization, and supply chain shifts.
- MSMEs, which make up 70-85% of Caribbean economies, are critical to economic resilience.
- They drive innovation and job creation but often struggle with access to finance, global competitiveness, and meeting international sustainability standards.



Green Transition Opportunities

- The Caribbean's biodiversity and climate favor agriculture, but climate change threatens food security. Sustainable farming is essential.
- CARICOM aims to cut food imports by 25% by 2030, but achieving this requires investment and technology adoption due to limited arable land.
- **Organic farming is growing**, especially in Jamaica (+20% in five years).
- Agriculture employs **16% of the region's workforce**, with higher rates in Guyana (30%), Dominica (25%), Saint Lucia (20%), and Jamaica (18%).
- **Investment & innovation in sustainable agriculture** are crucial for food security.



The Role of Digital Technology in the Green Transition of the Caribbean Private Sector

As the global economy shifts toward sustainability, digital technology is playing a transformative role in the green transition of the private sector.

- **AI, Blockchain & IoT:** Driving efficiency, transparency, and smart resource management for a sustainable private sector.
- **Green Finance & Carbon Markets:** Blockchain enables carbon credit verification and secures climate finance for adaptation projects.
- **Strategic Action for Growth:** Policymakers, investors, and businesses must collaborate to scale adoption and build digital infrastructure.



Unlocking The Green Economy in The Caribbean



Adopting smart energy, AI-driven efficiency, and blockchain transparency enhances resilience, reduces costs, and unlocks green investment opportunities.

To accelerate this transformation:

- Collaboration between policymakers, investors, and private sector leaders is key.
- Investment in digital infrastructure will drive wider adoption.
- Capacity-building will equip businesses for sustainable growth.



Green Transition Support



Green Transition Grants – Funding for businesses adopting green practices and grants supporting sustainability projects.



Green Energy Audit Toolkit – Online tool helping MSMEs assess energy use & improve efficiency.



Green Business Strategies – Training businesses on sustainable practices.

Caribbean Investment Forum



Facilitated almost 700 B2B meetings - Strengthening direct business connections, driving strategic partnerships, and accelerating cross-border trade and investment collaborations.



Curated 15 high-impact projects worth US \$100M, attracting investors and driving sustainable economic growth in key Caribbean sectors.



CIF has welcomed nearly 1,500 participants, including high-net-worth individuals, investors, international financiers, business leaders, and policymakers from **over 46 countries**, fostering networking and strategic partnerships.

Connect, Learn, Invest – Be Part of the Caribbean Investment Forum 2025!



C A R I B B E A N
**INVESTMENT
FORUM**

END SLIDE

CONNECT WITH US

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