Antigua and Barbuda is extremely proud to be serving as host country for the 4th International Conference on Small Island Developing States. As host country, we look forward to welcoming delegates and participants to the land of 365 beaches from May 27 – 30 for robust discussions and optimistic outcomes, ensuring that we are “Charting the Course Towards Resilient Prosperity”.
GENERAL INFORMATION

SIDS4 will take place on the campus of the American University of Antigua, located on the North Eastern side of the island.

Antigua and Barbuda uses the Eastern Caribbean Dollar commonly referred to as the EC dollar. US currency is also widely accepted on the island. The exchange rate is 1 USD equals 2.70 EC dollar.

International calling code for Antigua and Barbuda is +268.

There are two associated plug types, types A and B. Plug type A is the plug which has two flat parallel pins and plug type B is the plug which has two flat parallel pins and a grounding pin. Antigua operates on a 230V supply voltage and 60Hz.

Fig.1 Type A and Type B Plugs
Weather: Spring. From March to May, top temperatures range from 86° (30°) with lows averaging 74° to 78° (23° to 25°). May is the wettest of the spring months, but usually with short, sharp showers in the late afternoon.

Dress code: For the opening and closing of the conference, first and last day formal business attire is recommended. Days two and three, light cotton attire is recommended (conference appropriate).

In Antigua and Barbuda, we drive on the left.
Antigua and Barbuda is a popular destination with an international airport of world class standards. You will arrive at the V.C.Bird International Airport (airport code ANU).

Antigua and Barbuda is served by a number of airlines, with direct flights from New York, New Jersey, North Carolina, Atlanta and Toronto.

From Europe there are direct flights from London which easily connects all of Europe. There are also connecting flights from almost all Caribbean islands to Antigua.

Airline seats are in high demand for SIDS4.
DO I NEED A VISA?

Some countries do require a Visa for travel to Antigua and Barbuda. Holders of diplomatic, official or UN passports are visa exempt. If you are in possession of a US, Canadian, British or Schengen visa you can apply for visa on arrival. We however encourage to apply for a visa before arrival into Antigua and Barbuda. A full list is provided on our website.
WHERE TO STAY

Antigua and Barbuda’s Ministry of Tourism is a key partner in the organisation and overall coordination of SIDS4. Rooms are still available at a range of hotels on island.

In addition the government has coordinated a central booking platform for additional accommodations options. The data base of available rooms has been expanded to include some of our most beautiful and accommodating smaller properties, all of which have met the qualifying standards to host our guests for the SIDS4 Conference. A booking platform has been launched and is yielding positive results. It is found under the Accommodations section of our website: sids4.gov.ag
VIPS arriving in Antigua and Barbuda will be met at the airport. Each head of state or government will be provided with one vehicle, one security escort and one protocol officer.

Ministers of governments acting in the capacity as head of delegations will be offered similar VIP courtesies.

There will be a VIP lounge on arrival at the airport and also at the conference center.

Accommodations for Heads of State and Government or Ministers acting as head of delegation from each Small Island Developing State will be provided by the government of Antigua and Barbuda. An additional room will also be provided. That is two rooms per head of state/government or head of delegation.
There will be a welcome reception for Heads of delegations on Sunday 26th May in the evening, hosted by the Governor General of Antigua and Barbuda.

There will be a heads dinner on Monday 27th May hosted by Prime Minister Browne.

There will be a farewell reception on Thursday 30th May for Foreign Ministers hosted by the Foreign Minister of Antigua and Barbuda.

Lunch will be provided daily for all VIPS at the VIP lounge at the conference center.
GENERAL CONFERENCE ATTENDEES

Upon arrival you will be guided through customs and immigration with designated markers. Buses will be located outside of arrivals with clear markers to your respective hotels/villas or small property accommodations.

Catering will be provided at the conference center daily that will offer both local and international options. Additional information will be provided on payment methods.
The international community has designated Antigua and Barbuda as a generally safe country, and low risk. The safety of conference attendees is paramount therefore a joint team of Antigua and Barbuda’s security services is collaborating to ensure that all conference participants can safely enjoy their stay on island.

The Antigua and Barbuda Royal Police Force, the Antigua and Barbuda Defence Force, the CARICOM Regional Security and Private Security personal is already fully activated in order to provide additional safety measures.
Antigua and Barbuda has one main hospital that is of international standards, it also offers state of the art services.

There will be dedicated block at the hospital for SIDS4 attendees, in the event any conference attendees may require medical assistant.

Community clinics and services are also located throughout the four quadrants on the island and will be available to all conference attendees.

There will also be a medical outpost located at the conference center.
The island will be divided into four quadrants – East, West, North and South – shuttle transportation will be provided daily to and from the conference center. A timetable will be shared will in advance of the conference.

The resources of the Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board has been fully deployed and is being supported by private agencies in the provision of adequate transportation services during conference hours and activities.
Arrangements are in place for pick-up and drop-off services between the VC Bird International Airport, your accommodation and the conference venue at the American University of Antigua (AUA). UNDP is supporting the Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board in creating a seamless coordination of the ground transportation operations.

It is important that all conference participants and delegates add their travel and accommodation information to a form provided on our website.

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

FRIDAY, 24 MAY 2024 – SUNDAY, 26 MAY, 2024
CHILDREN AND YOUTH SUMMIT
GENDER EQUALITY FORUM
SIDS GLOBAL BUSINESS NETWORK FORUM

SUNDAY, 26 MAY, 2024
WELCOME RECEPTION
GOVERNOR GENERAL’S RESIDENCE (BY INVITATION ONLY)

MONDAY, 27 MAY, 2024
SIDS4 OPENS AT THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ANTIGUA AT JABBERWOCK
PRIME MINISTER’S DINNER (BY INVITATION ONLY)

WEDNESDAY, 29 MAY, 2024
CIVIL SOCIETY FORUM

THURSDAY, 30 MAY, 2024
FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER RECEPTION (DELEGATION HEADS)
CONFERENCE APP

To ensure ready access to every possible detail about the conference, Antigua and Barbuda will be launching an App that will provide real time information.

This will include the transportation details, emergency contact services, dinning options, general information about the island and additional conference details.
DEPARTING ANTIGUA

It is strongly recommended that conference participants complete their pre-departure checks with the airlines before arriving at the airport, this includes early online check-in, completion of departure forms and completing your hotel checkout as early as possible.

We highly recommend arriving at the airport as early as 3-4 hours before departure, as you can imagine thousands will be departing Antigua on May 31st.
SEE YOU IN ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

All information about SIDS4 can be found on the conference website at www.sids4.ab.gov.ag

The shores of our beautiful twin island nation rise up to greet you and our arms are spread wide in warm embrace for your welcome. SIDS4 is poised as the turning point for island nations to correct course on a long and arduous journey. As hosts, we are not in this alone and your encouragement and support will be essential ingredients in inspiring all SIDS on their journey to a resilient and prosperous future.