



4TH INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON
**Small Island
Developing States**
27-30 MAY, 2024
ST. JOHN'S, ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

SIDS4 Conference Side Event

The Barbados BLOOM Cleantech Cluster – A collaborative model to unlock green entrepreneurship and innovation in SIDS

30 May 2024, 08:00 to 09:30, Room 7, American University of Antigua, SIDS4 Conference Venue

Organized by: Export Barbados (BIDC), The BLOOM Cleantech Cluster Barbados, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), The Caribbean Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (CCREEE)

Background on the event (one paragraph)

This session informed on the Barbados BLOOM Cleantech Cluster model namely its origin, successes and challenges. Moreover, supported entrepreneurs – men and women - will present their developed sustainable energy and circular economy solutions directed towards accelerating the shift of Barbados and the Caribbean to diversified green, blue and digital economies. There is focus on innovative, digitized solutions aiming at the diversion of waste from the landfill by utilizing these waste streams found in the Caribbean to create value-added products. Moreover, the envisaged replication of the BLOOM model in other SIDS and lower-income countries will be discussed also in the view of the intended establishment of a climate technology and innovation mechanism promoting SIDS entrepreneurship globally as outcome of the SIDS4.

Key Issues discussed (5-8 bullet points)

- Origin and successes of the Barbados BLOOM cluster
- Plans for the regional and global replication of the BLOOM model
- Sustainable Energy and Circular Economy Solutions developed by its cluster members
- The future direction and vision of BLOOM
- The importance of supportive policies and regulations in fostering a thriving cleantech ecosystem.

Key recommendations for action (5-6 bullet points)

- Support the inclusive development of cleantech startups and SMES
- Consider the cluster approach for a supportive mechanism to develop the cleantech industry
- Establish a regional network for knowledge sharing
- Promote waste-to-value initiatives
- Replicate the BLOOM Model in other SIDS and Lower-Income Countries