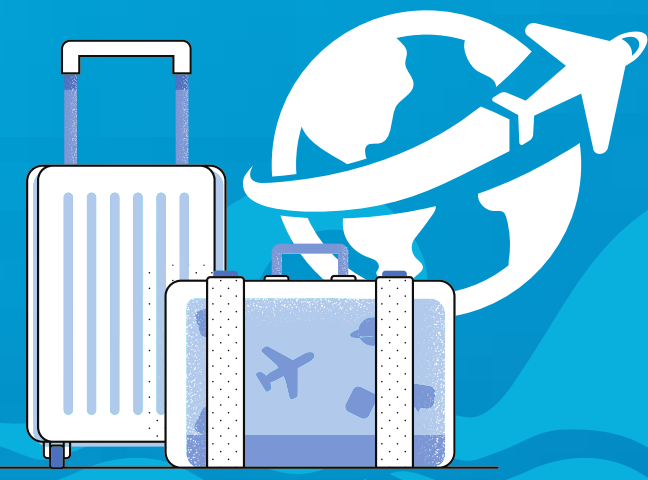




Tourism and the BBNJ Agreement (Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction):

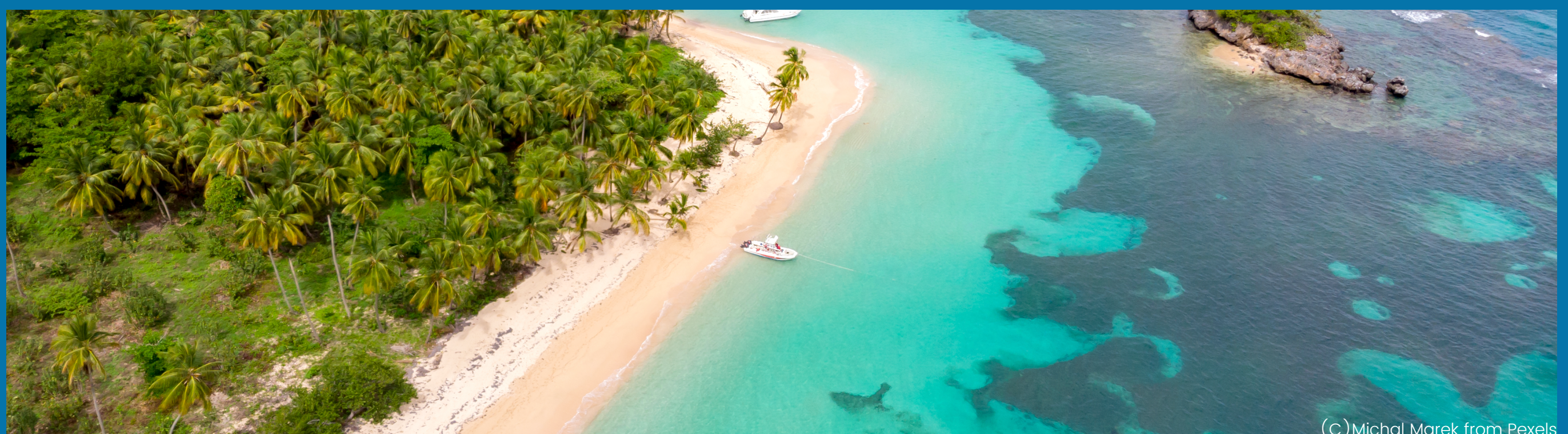


Exploring issues for the Caribbean Importance of the Tourism Sector

Caribbean countries are especially dependent on ocean ecosystems for their tourism product. Tourism is the most important economic sector in the region, creating jobs and contributing over 30% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of many Caribbean SIDS. The tourism sector contributed nearly 90% of Aruba's total employment, almost 60% in the Bahamas and 50% in St Lucia and Antigua and Barbuda

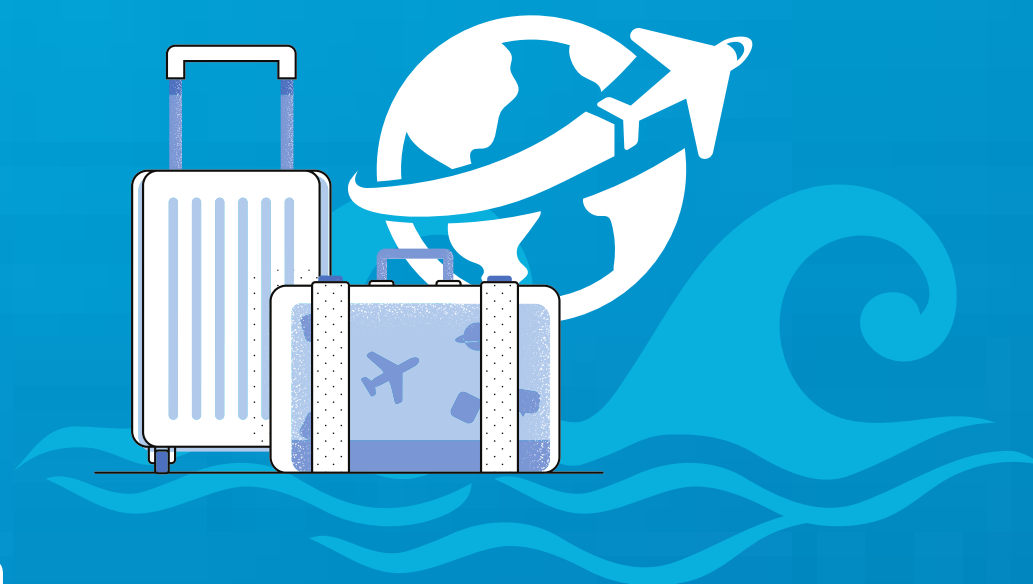
Relevance of the BBNJ Agreement to the Tourism Sector

Due to their dependence on ocean ecosystems as the tourism attraction, Caribbean countries must implement measures to encourage the conservation and sustainable use of ocean resources and ecosystems whilst pursuing socio-economic advancement through tourism. Sustainable tourism has the potential to generate income whilst also protecting natural resources and biodiversity.



Priorities for negotiation

There needs to be sufficient collaboration with the Caribbean tourism sector to ensure that further economic growth can be supported whilst ensuring biodiversity and communities benefit and are protected. Encouraging green technologies and the sustainable use of ocean resources can further contribute to a more sustainable tourism industry.



The Way Forward ►

The tourism sector can consider the BBNJ Agreement as a step towards more sustainable industry that encourages economic growth whilst ensuring protection of biodiversity within Caribbean countries and beyond their territorial waters, which is the basis for the Caribbean tourism product.



What happens in international waters affects all of us –

CARICOM stakeholders from government, private sector, communities, civil society, academia and regional agencies have rights, responsibilities and interests in the sustainable use and protection of biodiversity in international waters.

Get more information: <https://www.un.org/bbnj/>

Get involved! Contact CANARI: info@canari.org



Special thanks to the Oak Foundation for support to CANARI to assist CARICOM negotiators with engagement of CARICOM stakeholders.