

HOSTED BY 



Island Finance Forum 2021

Investment for Sustainable Development

13-16 APRIL 2021

Agenda

Updated as of April 12, 2021.

Tuesday 13 April

Opening Networking Session - Sponsored by Invest Barbados

9:00am EDT (New York), 14:00pm BST (London), 23:00pm AEST (Sydney)

Duration: 1 hour (Remo)

An interactive networking session where attendees can move from table to table and meet key stakeholders from across the globe, engage with one another and make connections.

Join Session

Roundtable: Financing a Blue-Green Recovery for the Caribbean (Invitation-Only)

11:00am EDT (New York), 16:00pm BST (London), 1:00am AEST (Sydney - Next day)

Duration: 2.5 hours (Remo)

The Financing a Blue-Green Recovery for the Caribbean session invites key stakeholders from across the region to workshop opportunities to develop ocean investment around the region. This is an invitation-only event open to Caribbean stakeholders working on Blue Economy and adjacent sectors. The interactive session will bring together finance and policymakers aiming to create specific outputs and recommendations to develop the Blue Economy across all countries and territories in the Caribbean.

Moderator: James Ellsmoor, CEO, Island Innovation.

Speakers:

- Christian Peter, Practice Manager for the Environment, Natural Resources and Blue Economy Global Practice Unit, World Bank
- Dr. Angus Friday, Blue Economy Director, Waitt Institute
- Gözde Kurusoy, Director of Banking and Financing, MPC Capital
- Timar Jackson, Manager, Origination and Structuring, NCB Capital Markets

Request an Invitation

New Opportunities to Access Capital and Investment for SMEs - Sponsored by NCB Capital Markets Ltd

15:00pm EDT (New York), 20:00pm BST (London), 05:00am AEST (Sydney - Next Day)

Duration: 1.5 hours

Small and medium enterprises are poised to drive economic growth in the 21st century, especially on islands where market size may be limited. In order to do so, these institutions are seeking access to capital and funding in new and innovative ways. Join this panel to hear from leaders of SMEs and funding institutions to discuss the role that these organizations play in island economies and how they can contribute to creating more prosperous nations.

Moderator: Alicia D. Nicholls, Trade Researcher at Shridath Ramphal Centre, UWI

Speakers:

- Kenneth Green, Managing Partner, Advance Global Partners
- Angus Young, CEO, NCB Global Finance
- Betty Fausta, CEO, IEPOS
- Catherine Sumpter, Vice-Chair of the New Zealand Pacific Business Council

Join Session

Wednesday 14 April

Official Opening Plenary to the Island Finance Forum 2021

08:00am EDT (New York), 13:00pm BST (London), 22:00pm AEST (Sydney)

Duration: 1.5 hours

The Opening Plenary will set the tone and frame the discussions throughout the Island Finance Forum 2021. The plenary will feature keynote addresses from island leaders to discuss the macroeconomic issues facing island communities, with a focus on offering long-term solutions to aid a sustainable and resilient economic future.

Moderator: Opening Welcome: James Ellsmoor, Founder & Director, Island Innovation

Speakers:

- Hon. Allen Chastanet, Prime Minister of Saint Lucia
- Hon. Frank Bainimarama, Prime Minister of Fiji
- Hon. Gaston Browne, Prime Minister of Antigua & Barbuda and Chair of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)
- Hon. Bob Loughman Weibur, Prime Minister of the Republic of Vanuatu
- Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu, High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, UN-OHRLLS
- Riad Meddeb, Senior Principal Advisor for Small Island Developing States / Climate Investment Platform Global Lead, UNDP.

Join Session

Investing in Transportation Electrification: Building the Business Case for E-Mobility - *Sponsored by Nathan Associates*

10:00am EDT (New York), 15:00pm BST (London), 00:00am AEST (Sydney) (Next day)

Duration: 1 hr 30 mins

There is growing recognition that we can't solve the climate change problem without addressing transportation, and electric mobility is now seen as essential for long-term global sustainability. Islands represent a unique electric mobility conundrum. On the plus side, they tend to be relatively small so range issues are reduced, they have high fossil fuel prices so electric vehicle (EV) economics are more favorable, and many island governments have committed to a low or zero carbon future. On the minus side, high electricity rates, high EV prices, limited infrastructure and small economies represent a considerable barrier to widespread EV adoption. This panel will discuss how, given these pros and cons, the business case is currently being built for electric mobility investments on islands. Panel members will include representatives of multilateral development banks, commercial banks, private developers/investors and utilities. The panel is intended to help inform and inspire those who want to move electric mobility forward on islands and elsewhere.

Moderator: Adam Borison, Senior Vice President, Nathan Associates

Speakers:

- Marcelino Madrigal, Principal Energy Specialist, Energy Division, Inter-American Development Bank
- Jo Edghill, Co-Founder & Director, Megapower Ltd
- Eric Wenick, Founder and General Partner, WRB Serra Partners
- Hon. Steven Myers, Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Action, Government of Prince Edward Island
- Roger Todd, Director of the Department of Public Transportation, Government of Bermuda

[Join Session](#)

Economic Recovery and Inclusive Growth in a Post-Pandemic World: The Island Scenario

12:00pm EDT (New York), 17:00pm BST (London), 02:00am AEST (Sydney) (Next Day)

Duration: 1 hr 30 mins

Islands globally have faced an incredibly challenging period under the pandemic, particularly with many relying on the tourism industry as a major source of income. The small size and industry-specific dependencies of many islands provide particularly unique challenges for sustainable development. This session will explore approaches and solutions for economic recovery and inclusive growth in a post-pandemic world.

Moderator: Chantal Dagnaud, President, Institutions & Strategies SAS

Speakers:

- Kaye-Anne Brathwaite, CEO, Invest Barbados
- Alexandra Almeida, Senior Officer Lending Operations, Latin America and Caribbean – Public Sector Division, European Investment Bank
- Vanessa Toré, Director Foreign Economic Cooperation, Ministry of Economic Development of Curaçao
- Amb. Dr. Jocelyne Clarke-Fletcher, Ambassador for Diaspora, Government of Saint Lucia

[Join Session](#)

Networking Session - *Sponsored by Invest Barbados*

16:00pm EDT (New York), 21:00pm BST (London), 06:00am AEST (Sydney) (Next day)

Duration: 1 hour

An interactive networking session where attendees can move from table to table and meet key stakeholders from across the globe, engage with one another and make connections.

[Join Session](#)

Pacific Islands Energy Roundtable (Invitation-Only) - Sponsored by Mana Pacific

12:00pm HST (Honolulu), 18:00pm EDT (New York), 23:00pm BST (London), 08:00am AEST (Sydney - Next day), 10am FJT (Fiji - Next day)

Duration: 2.5 hours (Remo)

The Pacific Islands Energy Roundtable invites key stakeholders from the 22 Pacific Island Nations to plan and execute a cohesive strategy to adopt resilient solutions for the Pacific. This is an invitation only event available to individuals and organizations working on island resiliency initiatives in the Pacific.

The roundtable will centre on the participant's creation of tangible and actionable solutions that address the Pacific's resilience needs. There are 4 key topics that will be covered during the session:

- Cost-Effective Standardized Renewable Energy Systems in the Pacific Islands
- Regional Coordination
- Access to capital
- Geopolitics

MC: Joe Reed, CEO Mana Pacific

Moderator: Lagipoiva Cherelle Jackson, Editor, Pacific Environment Weekly

Speakers:

- John Miller, Co-Founder, Mana Pacific
- MK Merrigan, Co-Founder, Mana Pacific
- Henk Rogers, President, Blue Planet Alliance
- Terry Tamminen, Founder 7th Generation Advisors /Clean Energy Access Fund
- Ambassador Solo Mara, Secretary General, Pacific Islands Development Forum
- Denton Rarawa, Senior Economic Adviser Economics, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
- Leituala Kuiniselani Toelupe Tago, Regional Director for Polynesia, Pacific Community (SPC)

Request an Invitation

Practical Applications of Blockchain & Cryptocurrencies for Sustainable Development on Islands

20:00pm EDT (New York), 01:00am BST (London) (next day), 10:00am AEST (Sydney) (next day)

Duration: 1 hr 30 mins

Blockchain and cryptocurrencies have the potential to be revolutionary technologies, believed by many as being key future components in accelerating the attainment of the SDGs. Blockchain technology can be utilised in many important ways, such as building transparent and resilient supply chains including tracking vaccine delivery and facilitating transparency in pricing. Cryptocurrencies could become an important element in direct aid transfer,

authenticated by blockchain, as well as a method of financing the SDGs. This session will explore specific case studies for implementing blockchain on islands.

Moderator: Stefen Deleveaux, President, Caribbean Blockchain Alliance

Speakers:

- Sharmyn Powell, Chief Risk Officer, Eastern Caribbean Central Bank
- Sandra Uwantege Hart, Blockchain Innovations & Cash Transfer Lead, Oxfam
- George Siosi Samuels, Managing Director, Faiabrand Pte Ltd ("Faiā")
- Simon Chantry, Co-Founder and Chief Information Officer, Bitt

[Join Session](#)

Thursday 15 April

Financing the Green Energy Transition & Low-Carbon Infrastructure - sponsored by CAMCO

06:00am EDT (New York), 11:00am BST (London), 20:00pm AEST (Sydney)

Duration: 1 hr 30 mins

Sustainable finance and infrastructure investment play a critical role in accelerating the transition to a green energy and low carbon future. In this session leading experts will discuss how to accelerate the development of renewables and other green infrastructure for islands.

Moderator: Kalsey Belle, Coverage Officer, Eastern and Southern African Trade and Development Bank

Speakers:

- Geoff Sinclair, Managing Director, Camco
- Exsley Taloiburi, Team Leader – Resilience and Climate Change Finance Adviser, Pacific Islands Forum
- Thomas Jacobs, IFC Country Manager for Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and the Pacific Islands, International Finance Corporation
- Ahmed Badr, Acting Director, Project Facilitation & Support, IRENA

Join Session

Ministerial Roundtable - Economy and Sustainability for Global Islands

08:00am EDT (New York), 13:00pm BST (London), 22:00pm AEST (Sydney)

Duration: 1 hr 30 mins

Sustainable and inclusive economic practices are a critical goal in the continued and equitable development of island nations. This session will bring together Ministers of island nations for an exchange on government strategies towards sustainable economic growth.

Moderator: Dr. Francesco Sindico, Director, Strathclyde Centre for Environmental law and Governance (SCELG)

Speakers:

- Hon. Curtis Dickinson, Finance Minister, Government of Bermuda
- Hon. Rui Augusto Gomes, Minister of Finance, Government of Timor-Leste
- Hon. Dr. Gale Rigobert, Minister for Education, Innovation, Gender Relations and Sustainable Development, Government of Saint Lucia
- Hon. Osvaldo Tavares Vaz, Minister of Finance, Planning and Blue Economy, Government of São Tomé and Príncipe

Join Session

The Future of Innovative Finance Mechanisms for Ocean Conservation - sponsored by Caribbean Biodiversity Fund

10:00am EDT (New York), 15:00pm BST (London), 00:00am AEST (Sydney) (Next day)

Duration: 1 hr 30 mins

As islands, our Exclusive Economic Zones in many cases have at least equal if not an excess of terrestrial space to marine areas. As a result, health and conservation of the seas and marine areas is inextricably linked. The aim of the session is to hear some of the on-the-ground experiences, lessons learnt and best practices that have been developed from the presenters and to challenge the panel to consider ideas of new/potential financial mechanisms given emerging trends including the global pandemic and Blue Economy research and development as we work towards the 2030 and 2050 biodiversity targets.

Moderator: Vanessa Hartmann, Portfolio Manager, Agriculture & Natural Resources, Latin America & the Caribbean, KfW Development Bank

Speakers:

- **Opening Statement - Innovative financing towards 2030**
 - Hon Minister Parnell Charles, Minister of Housing, Urban Renewal, Environment and Climate Change, Government of Jamaica
- **Caribbean Sustainable Finance Architecture**
 - Yabanex Batista, CEO, Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF)
 - Karen Panton, Executive Director of Bahamas Protected Areas Fund (BPAF)
- **Micronesia Challenge and Conservation Trust**
 - Willy Kostka, Executive Director, Micronesia Conservation Trust
- **Seychelles Conservation and Climate Adaptation Trust (SeyCATT)**
 - Angelique Pouponneau, CEO, Seychelles Conservation & Climate Adaptation Trust
- **Global Funds for Coral Reefs**
 - Pierre Bardoux-Chesneau, Head of Global Team - Grant, Global Fund for Coral Reefs

Join Session

Debt and Access to Finance for Small Island Developing States in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond

12:00pm EDT (New York), 17:00pm BST (London), 02:00am AEST (Sydney) (Next day)

Duration: 1 hr 30 mins

Access to finance is a critical issue for countries rebuilding their economies and to the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly for Small Island Developing States (SIDS). This session will explore the approaches that island nations require and expand on existing strategies in order to create more resilient economies and drive sustainable green growth.

Moderator: Kavita Desai, Advisor on Sustainable Development and Global Policy, United Nations Foundation

Speakers:

- Johannes Zutt, Director of the Strategy, Risk, Results and Learning Department, The World Bank
- Deodat Maharaj, Executive Director, Caribbean Export Development Agency
- Nadia Spencer-Henry, Debt Manager in the Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance, AOSIS
- Jerome Phelps, Head of Advocacy, Jubilee Debt Campaign
- Dr Ratnakar Adhikari, Executive Director, Enhanced Integrated Framework, World Trade Organization

[**Join Session**](#)

Networking Session - *Sponsored by Invest Barbados*

**18:00pm EDT (New York), 23:00pm BST (London), 08:00am AEST (Sydney)
(Next day)**

Duration: 1 hour

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[**Join Session**](#)

Friday 16 April

Insuring the Future - Creative solutions for risk management

03:00am EDT (New York), 08:00am BST (London), 04:00pm AEST (Sydney)

Duration: 1 hr 30 mins

In an era of increasing environmental and economic instability, planning for an uncertain future has become increasingly challenging. However, creative solutions and outside-of-the-box thinking have allowed many small island economies to successfully mitigate their risk and work to protect future generations from catastrophe. The panel will discuss these solutions and opportunities to insure future development in infrastructure and beyond, all while promoting resilience in an uncertain future.

Moderator: Maybelline Bing, Adjunct Instructor, College of the Marshall Islands

Speakers:

- Dr Martin Kimmig, Chief Risk Officer, AIB
- Aholotu Palu, CEO, Pacific Catastrophe Risk Insurance Company
- Astrid Zwick, Head of InsuResilience Secretariat

Join Session

Impact Investing and ESG - An Opportunity for Financing Sustainable Development on Islands?

08:00am EDT (New York), 13:00pm BST (London), 21:00pm AEST (Sydney)

Duration: 1 hr 30 mins

The growth in ESG investing may represent a new shift for island communities. There is a growing interest from investors to ensure their money has a positive impact on the world, contributing to positive indicators in environment, social, and governance aspects. How can islands leverage new opportunities from investors looking to make an impact?

Moderator: Fiona Wilson, Senior Program Manager, Clinton Climate Initiative, Clinton Foundation

Speakers:

- Jackie Marati, Senior Vice President/Chief Communications and Corporate Social Responsibility Officer, Bank of Guam
- Mark Lewis, Chief Sustainability Strategist, BNP Paribas Asset Management
- Steve Weinstein, Chair, Bermuda Business Development Agency (BDA); Former Chief Legal Officer, RenaissanceRe Holdings Ltd; Chair, RenaissanceRe Risk Sciences Foundation
- Simone Hudson, CFA, AVP Alternatives and Fund Management

Join Session

Closing Networking Session - *Sponsored by Invest Barbados*

10:00am EDT (New York), 15:00pm BST (London), 00:00am AEST (Sydney) (Next day)

Duration: 1 hour

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