



UN-GGIM
UNITED NATIONS
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Expert Consultation and Meeting on Enhancing Geospatial Information Management Arrangements and Accelerating the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals together with the Sub-regional Workshop on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Framework for the Caribbean ‘Identifying Problems, Finding Solutions’
John E. St. Luce Finance & Conference Center
St. Johns, Antigua and Barbuda, 21-25 October 2024

Logistical and Information Note

Preamble

In this logistical and information note, you will find relevant information about the logistics and arrangements for the Expert Consultation and Meeting on Enhancing Geospatial Information Management Arrangements and Accelerating the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals together with the Sub-regional Workshop on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Framework for the Caribbean, including information on the venue, visa, accommodation, and general information about Antigua and Barbuda.

Logistical arrangements for the event

The in-person expert consultation and meeting and sub-regional workshop is organized by the Surveys and Mapping Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Fisheries and Blue Economy, Antigua and Barbuda jointly with the SDG Data Alliance and supported by the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Section, Statistics Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. The event will generally be from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day.

Venue

The event will be held at the John E. St. Luce Finance & Conference Center, St. Johns, Antigua and Barbuda.



Language

This expert consultation and meeting and sub-regional workshop will be conducted in English.

Participants

This event is an in-person closed event and participation is by invitation only. Participants are expected to be designated geospatial information management representatives, leads or focal persons, and subject matter experts from Caribbean small island developing States.

Travel information

Participants are responsible for their travel to and from Antigua and Barbuda and for acquiring entry visas into Antigua and Barbuda and any necessary transit visas, including necessary travel and health insurance as applicable. The United Nations will not be able to assist in bearing any related costs or in obtaining required visas.

Participants are asked to consider ways of reducing the environmental footprint of their mode of transportation. In Antigua and Barbuda, the V. C. Bird International Airport is close to the Conference venue. 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 North America. From Europe, there are direct flights from London which easily connect all of Europe. There are also connecting flights from almost all Caribbean islands to Antigua.

Accommodation

Participants are responsible for arranging their accommodation and can make the necessary reservations through all major booking websites. The United Nations will not be able to assist in booking or in bearing any related costs and expenses.

A few recommendations are as follows;

Trade Winds Hotel - <https://www.twhantigua.com/>

Hawksbill Resort - <https://hawksbillresortantigua.com/>

Royalton Antigua - <https://www.royaltonresorts.com/resorts/royalton-antigua>

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. Participants are encouraged to apply for a visa before arrival into Antigua and Barbuda.

For a list of countries whose citizens do not require a visa for entry into Antigua and Barbuda and the related conditions, visit <https://immigration.gov.ag/visaservices/countries-exempt-from-visa/>. For the conditions and procedures for obtaining a visa for entry into Antigua and Barbuda, visit <https://immigration.gov.ag/visa-services/general-visa-information>.

As unforeseen events may affect or extend visa processing times, applications should be made well in advance.

Transportation

Participants are encouraged to consider arranging for a transportation service to facilitate the transfer from and back to the airport, and also to and from the event venue each day. To arrange for transportation, please contact the following:

Company: Narnie Enterprise
Contact: +1-268-720 4569
E-mail: narnie9690@gmail.com
website: www.narnietaxiantigua.com

This arrangement is strongly recommended by the local organizer as taxis may not be easy to obtain from various locations.

Health and Safety

The international community has designated Antigua and Barbuda as a generally safe country, and low risk. While health insurance is not mandatory for entering Antigua and Barbuda, it is recommended that participants obtain it before traveling. It is also recommended that participants consult a doctor prior to traveling to Antigua and Barbuda to discuss any health needs or concerns. Vaccinations are not needed to enter Antigua and Barbuda. As official recommendations may change, participants are asked to remain informed about current rules and recommendations in place in Antigua and Barbuda and to take necessary precautions with regard to their travel, including with regard to restrictions in their country of origin and countries through which they may transit on their way to Antigua and Barbuda.

The telephone numbers for medical emergencies in Antigua and Barbuda are 911 and 999. The Mount Saint John's Medical Center is the main hospital in Antigua and is located in Saint John's (<https://www.msjmc.org/>). There are also other hospitals, medical clinics, private dental clinics, and pharmacies.

For current travel advice on the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and travel to Antigua and Barbuda, participants are advised to refer regularly to <https://www.visitantiguabarbuda.com/travel-advisory/> for updates and additional information.

Certain medications can be easily purchased at pharmacies in Antigua and Barbuda, and, if necessary, prescriptions can be issued by a local registered physician. Participants should bring from their countries of origin any prescribed medication but must ensure compliance with local guidelines.

Weather

Antigua and Barbuda has a tropical maritime climate. The hot season is from June to October while it is slightly cooler from December to March. You will get more rain in the hot season and while October's one of the wettest months, there is much less rain in Antigua than in other Caribbean islands.

The average high in Antigua is 86°F in October, which is perfect for relaxing on the beach. Evenings are still nice and warm, only cooling to 75°F, so a room with air conditioning is a good idea. At 84°F, the sea's lovely for swimming, while the humidity's high. There is 101mm of rain over 16 days, and you can expect 12 hours of daylight with seven hours of sunshine each day. UV levels will be very high so remember to bring plenty of sun cream. The sun goes down just before 6 pm at the start of the month.

Currency and banking

The official currency of Antigua and Barbuda is the Eastern Caribbean dollar (XCD). Participants should check with their banks or exchange bureaus to determine whether Eastern Caribbean dollars can be obtained before arrival. Banks and money exchange bureaus in Antigua and Barbuda can conduct foreign exchange transactions.

All major currencies are accepted and exchangeable in Antigua and Barbuda. Bank cards are widely accepted. Automatic teller machines (ATMs) are found in and around St. John's and at the Conference venue. A limited number of ATMs are also located at the Airport.

The primary banks in Antigua and Barbuda are ACB Caribbean, Eastern Caribbean Amalgamated Bank, CIBC First Caribbean International Bank, and Caribbean Union Bank. For licensed international banks in Antigua and Barbuda, see www.fsrc.gov.ag/images/pdf/banking/directory_of_banks_website_version-latest.pdf.

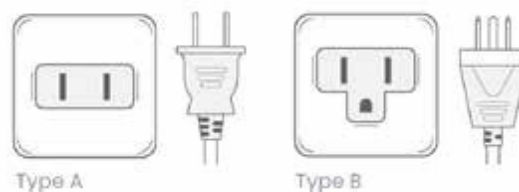
Telephone communications, mobile telephones and Internet

The country code for Antigua and Barbuda is +1-268.

Before travelling, participants are advised to check whether their mobile telephone carrier offers roaming services in Antigua and Barbuda or if prepaid SIM cards for talk or data should be acquired. However, local SIM cards, including e-SIMs, are available at local mobile service providers such as APUA INET, Digicel and Flow. Wi-Fi internet service will be available at the event venue.

Electricity and power outlets

Antigua and Barbuda uses type A (two-pin) and B (three-pin) electrical plugs and sockets (as does the United States of America). The standard voltage is 230 V, and the standard frequency is 60 Hz. Several hotels offer 110 V supply. It is strongly advised to check the voltage of each device before plugging it into an outlet.



Time Zone

Antigua and Barbuda observes Atlantic Standard Time (AST) throughout the year. There are no daylight-saving time clock changes. AST is 4 hours behind Coordinated Universal Time (UTC).

Attire

Light, summer clothing is customary all year round. Formal attire for men includes light suits or blazers and/or button-down shirts and ties, and women wear dresses or blouses with skirts or pants. Evenings can become cooler, and packing a light sweater is recommended.

Enquiries

For local and substantive arrangements:

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