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# Operationalising the OECS Single Domestic Space

**Dr. Lorraine Nicholas**

*Tourism Specialist, OECS Commission*

Strengthening Aviation Security through Improved Traveller Identification



Member State	Population	Tourism Contribution (%)		
		GDP	Emp.	Export
Anguilla	13,037	61.2	63.4	86.5
Antigua & Barbuda	84,816	58.3	53.0	71.6
British Virgin Islands	28,280	85.9	94.5	62.0
Dominica	71,293	26.4	24.0	48.0
Grenada	106,667	24.2	22.1	47.8
Montserrat	4,922	...	...	...
St. Kitts & Nevis	46,204	25.5	24.2	34.7
Saint Lucia	166,526	39.5	44.1	59.2
Saint Vincent & the Grenadines	109,997	19.9	19.8	30.3



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**Creation of a Single, Financial and Economic Space**



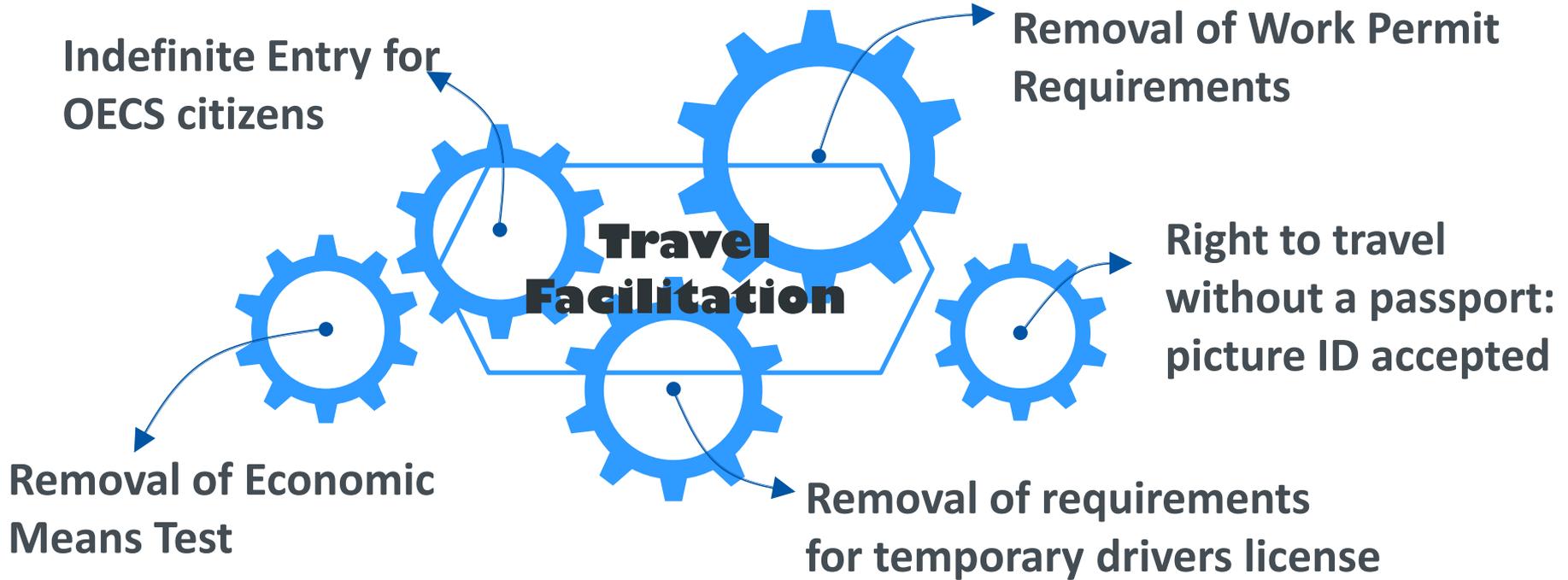
**Facilitation of Cross-Border Economic and Financial Activities**



**Abolition of Obstacles to Free Movement of Persons, Goods, Services and Capital**



## Free Movement of Citizens: Key Components





**OECS FREE MOVEMENT**  
**INDEFINITE STAY**

DEC 31 2011

10. 13

**Antigua & Barbuda**

**August 01, 2011**

**Free Movement  
of People  
(OECS Citizens)**

August 13, 2011  
 Towards ONE CARIBBEAN  
 Under God! \$2.00

**ONE CARIBBEAN**

Let Us Praise And Thank God:

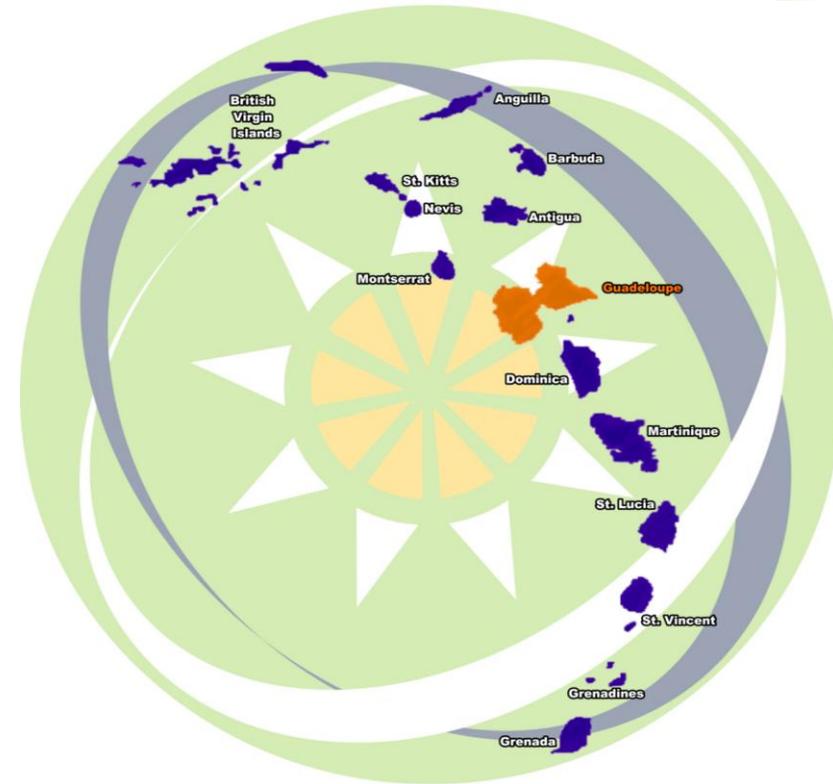


**AT LAST** By  
Denis Da Breo

**FREE MOVEMENT FOR  
PEOPLES OF THE OECS!**



# A Single Domestic Space for the Free and Seamless Movement of People and Goods in The OECS Economic Union Area





# WHY OECS SDS ?

## Economic Growth & Development

- ✓ Expand Access to Services and Labor Moving Across The Space
- ✓ Enhance Tourism Product
  - Multi-destination tourism





# OECS Common Tourism Policy

Improved competitiveness via  
progressive harmonisation of tourism policies



## Impact

Achieve more than  
individual states could  
achieve on their own



## Independence

Sustainable and self-  
sufficient tourism economy



## Insight

Broader awareness of the  
role of tourism



## Common Tourism Policy Priorities

1. Investment and Product Development
2. Community Participation & Sectoral Linkages
3. Human Resource Development
4. Tourism Awareness
5. Research and Statistics
6. Access and Transportation
- 7. Regional Facilitation – Border control**
8. Environmental and Cultural Sustainability
9. Marketing & Communications





## Regional Facilitation

When a visitor is faced with different regulations and procedures for travel in a region, this can be confusing and act as a disincentive to travel within the region

The market for multiple island packages is unlikely to grow in these circumstances

Enabling free movement of people within the region is perhaps the single greatest change required to improve the region's economic competitiveness



# Harmonized Customs and Immigration Procedures

## OECS Common Tourism Policy

- Harmonizing systems and reducing cumbersome procedures associated with customs and immigration formalities, while retaining measures required for security and data collection, is the **biggest step that could be taken to facilitate free movement**
- The aim is to **apply consistent procedures for visitors**





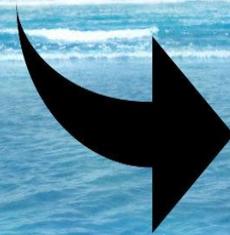
## OECS Ease of Travel Action Plan approved by Ministers of Tourism in 2013





Full clearance procedures should be undertaken just once at the initial port of arrival in the region

Single shared space





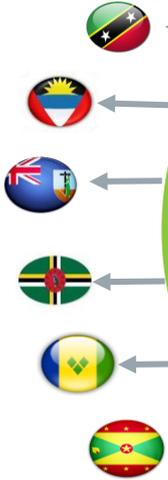
Passengers arrive from outside the OECS Economic Union



IMMIGRATION →

Passengers are subject to immigration and customs checks

FREE MOVEMENT IN OECS ECONOMIC UNION



Customs



Passengers are cleared at the first port of entry and can then move freely in the OECS Economic Union



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# Harmonized Border Management Procedures

- **Uniform maximum length of stay for each visitor category:**
  1. OECS Nationals: **indefinite stay**
  2. Other CARICOM nationals: **6 months**
  3. Other visitors: **90 days**
- **Collection of departure tax harmonized throughout OECS**
- **Establish a protocol for the efficient handling of transit passengers to eliminate multiple screening**







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# IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS

## Other Actions

- Standardization/inter-operability of software
- Update and modify relevant legislation
- Improvement/ modification of infrastructure (technology, layout, equipment)
- Standardization of service quality at borders



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# Goods

- The regulations should be unified to address the variations that exist across the region
- The OECS should develop unified passenger allowances for all OECS states

**NOTICE TO PASSENGER  
CUSTOMS DECLARATION (C)**

**Every passenger, or head of the family traveling together with a spouse and children under the age of 18, is required to complete Section C**

**1. Spouse, and children under age 18 accompanying you:**

Name	Date of Birth (DD/MM/YY)	Relation
JANE DOE	01/01/01	SPOUSE

**2. Number of pieces of luggage**  
 Accompanied:  2 Unaccompanied:  N/A  
 (Checked luggage and Hand luggage) (Luggage sent by Air or Sea freight)

**3. I am (We are) bringing:**

(a) fruits, plants, cut flowers, vegetables, soil, meat, live animals and organisms, honey, wildlife products, plant material, food, animal products or live birds	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
(b) pharmaceuticals, narcotics and other illicit drugs, and biological substances	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
(c) arms, ammunitions, explosives, fireworks, toy guns or other weapons	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**4. I have (We have) commercial merchandise:**  
 (articles for sale, samples used for soliciting orders or goods that are not considered personal effects)  Yes  No

**5. I am (We are) carrying currency or monetary instruments over (US\$10,000) or equivalent:**  Yes  No

**Passenger Allowances:**  
 1.5 litres of spirits or wine or proportionate mixes and 250 grams of manufactured tobacco or 200 cigarettes or 100 cigarillos or 50 cigars.

Residents of Antigua and Barbuda are entitled to an EC\$700.00 allowance on items, excluding firearms(s) and/or ammunitions acquired or purchased overseas. Please list items below:

**(If you are in doubt, declare all items to the Customs Officer)**

Description of Articles	\$ Value in Currency	For Customs Use Only

I certify that all statements I have made in this declaration are true, correct and complete. I understand that failure to make a full declaration is an offence and can result in seizure of the goods, fines and/or imprisonment.

Signature X Date 01/01/01

**OFFICIAL USE ONLY**

Signature of Examining Officer ID # \_\_\_\_\_

Attach Continuation Sheet if Necessary



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Member State	Currency Allowance	Duty Free Allowance	Tobacco OR Cigarettes	Wines/ Spirits	Perfume
<b>Antigua &amp; Barbuda</b>	≥ US \$ 10,000	EC \$ 700	250 grams Tobacco OR 200 Cigarettes	1.5 litre	N/A
<b>Dominica</b>	≥ EC \$ 10,000	EC \$ 400	227 grams Tobacco OR ≤200 Cigarettes	1 litre	N/A
<b>Grenada</b>	N/A	EC \$ 300	250 grams Tobacco OR 200 Cigarettes	1 litre	10 Ounces
<b>St. Kitts &amp; Nevis</b>	≥ US \$ 10,000	EC \$ 400	250 grams Tobacco OR 200 Cigarette	1.5 litre	N/A
<b>Saint Lucia</b>	≥ US \$ 10,000	US \$ 250	250 grams Tobacco OR ≤200 Cigarettes	1.14 litre	250 ml
<b>St. Vincent &amp; Grenadines</b>	≥ EC \$ 10,000	US \$ 100	≤ 1/2 pound Tobacco OR ≤200 Cigarettes	1 quart	N/A



## Information Sharing

is Key in the  
Operationalisation  
of a Single  
Domestic Space



## CARICOM Interactive Border Security System (*CARIBSECS*)

Country	Last Activity	No. of Records	Days Since Last Activity
Antigua & Barbuda	Monday, August 08, 2011	264	785
Dominica	Monday, April 20, 2009 -	44	1625
St Kitts and Nevis	Friday, July 20, 2012	182	438
St Lucia	Thursday, May 20, 2010	3	1230
St Vincent & the Grenadines	Thursday, September 10, 2009	16	1482



# WATCHLISTING TRAINING





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# Travel Facilitation

## Maritime Sector





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# SailClear

HOME

ABOUT US



**Web-Based  
Pre-Arrival  
System for  
Yachtspersons**



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# EAST CARIBBEAN VILLAGE

Sail Clear - Many Islands, One Caribbean





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**Thank You  
For Your Attention**



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## Contact Details

Name: Lorraine Nicholas (PhD)  
Email: [lnicholas@oecs.org](mailto:lnicholas@oecs.org)