



Case Study

# CARIBBEAN CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY X TOURISM

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# CONTEXT

As tourism is a vital industry in The Caribbean and also highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, programs, initiatives and policy frameworks that recognize the need to address this vulnerability are particularly important to achieving goals and targets for climate resilience (adaptation and mitigation). Tourism, as a large consumer of energy, is also well-placed to support a country's NDC (Nationally Determined Contribution) targets for reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. As the region with the highest dependence on tourism globally, high-level stakeholders are increasingly adopting policy and development ambitions to initiate current and future national actions on both climate and tourism being pursued by countries in the region.

To determine the current actions and ambitions of seven Caribbean countries (The Bahamas, Belize, Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) commissioned a project for a series of country-specific reports that underline existing climate change-related instruments and their impact on the tourism sector. The project scope of work was awarded to a Joint Venture, comprising of Green Case Consulting, Sea Going Green and J.F. Clarke Consulting.

## THE CHALLENGE

While each of the seven target country's national plans address and aspire to generate an adequate response to climate impacts, information is lacking on the effectiveness of these actions within the tourism sector both from an internal and regional perspective.

Though ambitious, prior to this project, a general lack of information on implementation had prevented the client, Inter-American Development Bank, from being able to assess and determine where technical and financial support could address gaps, enhance the speed of climate action and build resilience within the tourism sector. This scope of work was developed to inform IDB, using an overview of each country's climate response to develop a Gap Analysis and an outline for areas of intervention.





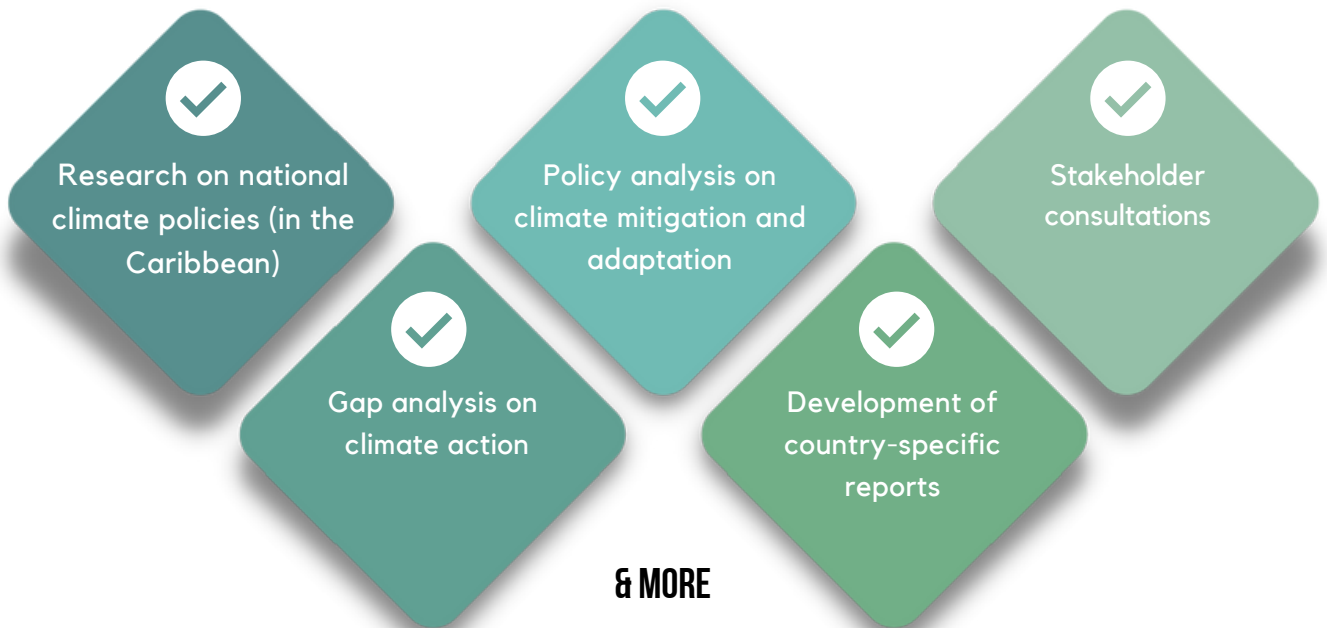
## WHAT WE ACHIEVED

Sea Going Green conducted desktop research and analyzed The Bahamas, Belize and Suriname's most recent national climate reports including the following: National Communication Reports, Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) Reports, Biennial Update Reports, National Climate Change Policies and National Adaptation Plans. Drawing from these plans, information was categorized based on the main sub sectors in the tourism industry (accommodation, transportation, attractions...etc.), covering, for example, policies and strategies that prioritize lowering carbon emissions, enable access to renewable energy sources, reduce energy consumption and promote sustainable fuel sources. Apart from climate-related plans and strategies, research outlined the potential tools available to the tourism sector to promote climate action and sustainable tourism such as grant opportunities, tourism taxes, sustainable tourism policies, eco-labels conservation funds among others.

Stakeholder consultations with high-level and industry-specific representatives followed, providing supplementary insights and perspectives on the current policy landscape and the practicality and speed of implementation, informing the final Gap Analysis and country-specific reports for The Bahamas, Belize, Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago. Final reports compiled insights from previous deliverables, providing a comprehensive overview consisting of a country profile, mitigation and adaptation efforts, areas for policy and financial intervention and other gaps requiring support from IDB and each country's respective national government bodies.



## OBJECTIVES MET



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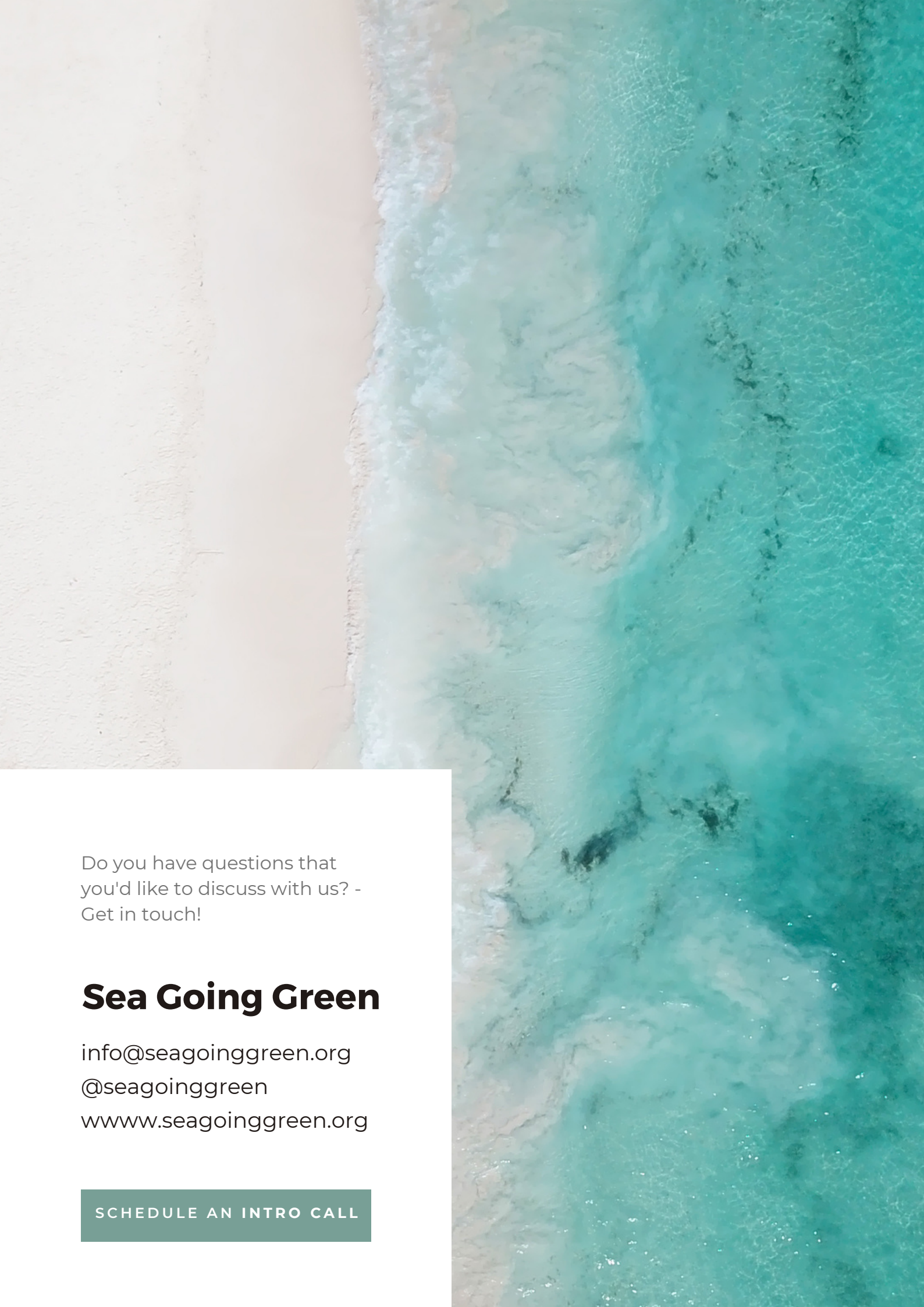




**Juliana Bettini  
Vicente - Tourism  
Specialist**

The work conducted by Sea Going Green and the companies part of the Joint Venture exceeded our expectations. With a solid technical background and expertise in different areas of knowledge, They were able to structure an innovative and practical approach for guiding efforts towards increasing the connection between tourism and climate policies. The team involved in the project was innovative, very cooperative and open for dialogue, As well as solid from a methodological and technical standpoint. The guidelines provided by the consultancy are a much valuable input for the IDB's team to provide support for countries in Latin America and the Caribbean on sector policies.





Do you have questions that  
you'd like to discuss with us? -  
Get in touch!

## **Sea Going Green**

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