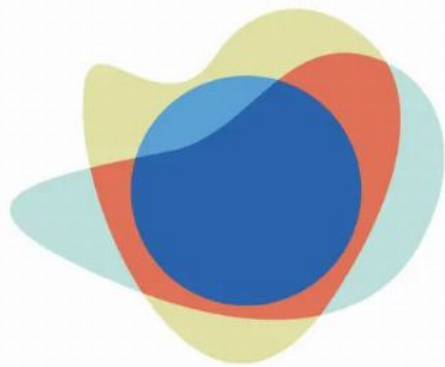


Small Island Developing States

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4TH INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON
**Small Island
Developing States**
27-30 MAY 2024
ST. JOHN'S, ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

About Small Island Developing States:

- These are a distinct group of **39 States and 18 Associate Members** of United Nations regional commissions that face unique social, economic and environmental vulnerabilities.
- The **three geographical regions** in which SIDS are located are: **the Caribbean, the Pacific, and the Atlantic, Indian Ocean and South China Sea (AIS).**
- SIDS were recognized as a special case both for their environment and development at the 1992 **United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.**
- For SIDS, the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)—the ocean under their control—is, on average, 28 times the country's land mass.
- **Issues:** They are highly vulnerable developing countries as they **suffer from low economic diversification**, often characterised by high dependence on tourism and remittances, volatility due to fluctuations in private income flows and the prices of raw materials, and debt stress situations.
- For many SIDS, the majority of the natural resources they have access to come from the ocean.

Q1: What is an Exclusive economic zone (EEZ)?

It is an area of the ocean extending up to 200 nautical miles (370 km) immediately offshore from a country's land coast in which that country retains exclusive rights to the exploration and exploitation of natural resources.

Source: The GEF at the Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS-4)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/sids/>

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