



Global Gateway –

Sargassum Example
in the Caribbean
region

This was identified as a regional Global Gateway priority identified for the Caribbean region

Objective:

Turn Sargassum algae from a threat to an economic opportunity (e.g. biofuel, water purification, agriculture) -



These outputs do not capture the whole of the Team Europe engagement in country. They capture concrete infrastructure investments under Global Gateway. They will be accompanied by soft measures in a 360° approach, so as to improve the policy, regulatory and business environment, develop skills, foster innovation and transfer technology.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the European Union.

Source: European Commission - Eurostat/GSD

Key Points

- **Relevance of this sector:**
 - **For the Caribbean:**
 - A major physical, health, negative marketability and economic impact
 - At the same time, significant potential worthwhile new raw material for exploration and the development of new industries - fuel, biogas, fertilizers, animal feed, extract for cosmetic industry, among other areas.
 - **For the EU**
 - There are several biotechs in the EU with good experience in algae-based products and research & development
 - There are European technologies available for the forecasting, collection, or the processing of sargassum , as well as potential private sector investors willing to explore opportunities in the Caribbean region.



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Flagship activity

- Among the key activities within the theme was the Sargassum conference - September 2024, Grenada
- **Main organisers:**
 - DG INTPA HQ (Latinamerica and Caribbean Directorate)
 - the EU Delegation in BARBADOS
 - The EU-LAC Policy Dialogue Support Facility facility managed by company CESO (consulting firm).
- **Planning period:** 6-7 months

Attendees

- 400 persons physical plus more online
- Top Government officials from Grenada, including Prime Minister,
- Top regional government authorities
 - Secretary General of OECS,
 - CARICOM
- Top EU officials
 - EU Officials from INTPA, and EEAS,
 - EU Member States Ambassadors in the region
 - Directors/Managers of IFIs like EIB, GIZ, AFD, WB, IFC, CAF, IADB, etc.
 - EU Delegation - Barbados including the Ambassador of EU Del, Barbados
- EU businesses with interest in sargassum forecasting, collection, processing, etc. technology suppliers, bio techs, researchers. NGOs
- Business Displays - EU companies (market fair)

Results needed

- Increase Education/Awareness/ Advocacy/ mobilisation of HR and financial resources
- Concrete match making between EU and regional companies
- Concrete interest from companies to support Governments in Grenada and elsewhere to address the issue

Approach

- **Partnership** promoted throughout the conference
- Global gateway was the **brand** used to mobilise resources
- **Led by highest levels:** EU Director in INTPA plus EU Ambassador in the region led the initiative - *this type of soft support / leadership is powerful in getting others mobilised*
- **Budget:** The Global Europe regional LAC budget under the **PDSF facility** was used to pay for the organisation - conference, speakers, promotion, organisers, catering.
- **Co-financing/ Contributions:** Grenada Government contributed to cover some conference cost, local transport and cocktail during the event
- **Private sector support:** Private sector companies attending would have been encouraged to attend but companies paid their own cost