

Risk conference to discuss tariffs, supply-chain issues

Global trade tensions and the recent implementation of tariffs are expected to be a central focus at the second Wider Caribbean Regional Risk Conference next week.

In a news release on Monday, it was confirmed that the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) was co-hosting the event with CCRIF SPC—the Caribbean and Central America parametric insurance facility and development insurer, and CAF—Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean.

The event will be held from September 3–4, 2025.

The release stated the agenda will cover the multiplicity of risks that cut across every dimension of national development across the region.

The release said, “The conference agenda reflects the scale and complexity of the challenges facing the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR) and over 40 high-level experts from Caribbean, Central American and international organisations are confirmed to participate. Speakers and presenters will discuss the economic, social and environmental risks being faced by the WCR, as well as governance challenges and share best practices, lessons learned and innovative solutions to advance the sustainability agenda of the WCR.”

The release added, “Sessions will probe the ripple effects of intensifying global trade tensions, new tariff regimes, and shifting supply chains on the region’s growth prospects. Participants will also engage with rating agencies, central banks, and multilateral institutions on strategies to strengthen sovereign risk management, enhance fiscal resilience, and navigate the debt vulnerabilities that limit development space for SIDS.”

It also stated that the conference will also explore the new threats posed by misinformation and disinformation, while looking at both the threats and opportunities posed by AI. Focus will also be placed on sharing the importance of scaling up efforts around detection and attribution science as countries in the WCR seek to address climate justice issues, by enhancing climate-related loss and damage estimations and increasing access to climate finance.