



CARIBBEAN ASSOCIATION OF
INVESTMENT PROMOTION
AGENCIES



2026

Invest in Belize

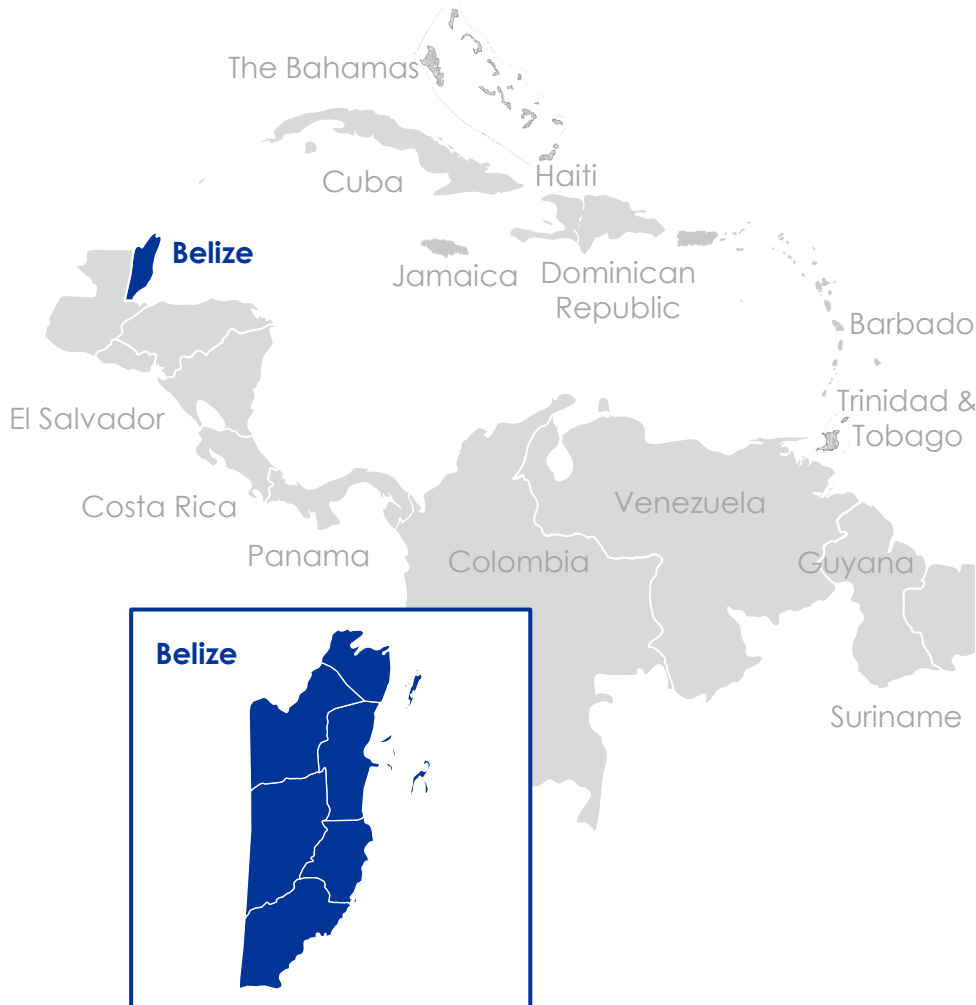
Prepared by



PROPRIETARY AND CONFIDENTIAL

Any use of this material within specific permission from FT Locations is strictly prohibited

Invest in a connected, competitive and growing Caribbean



Scalable investment potential

The Caribbean attracts **USD 5bn+** in **annual FDI** and offers scalable opportunities supported by **sustained GDP growth of around 3%** across the region.

Gateway between North and South America

Located on key hemispheric trade routes, the Caribbean connects the US, Canada and Mexico with South American markets, offering **sub-5-hour flight times** and **strong maritime connectivity** across major regional hubs.

A coordinated regional investment ecosystem

Anchored by **CARICOM's single market** and supported by **CAIPA and 23 national IPAs**, the region offers streamlined investment facilitation, cross-border industry clusters and access to blended and multilateral finance.

Sources: UNCTAD; IMF; World Bank; Inter-American Development Bank (IDB); CARICOM Secretariat; CAIPA.



The Caribbean offers a strategic location, political stability, skilled workforce, competitive incentives, and strong investor protection - backed by investment promotion partners committed to your success

Suzette Hudson, Secretariat, CAIPA

Why invest in Belize?

Belize offers a stable and improving business environment that enables predictable long-term investment.

Belize combines macro stability with rising FDI stock and strengthening export performance, supported by regulatory scores **above the world average** in business, labour and monetary freedom. A **2.1% projected annual growth rate (2026–2030)** and expanding trade flows give investors a reliable foundation for medium- and long-term planning.

Belize's high-growth sectors offer clear investment opportunities backed by strong market demand.

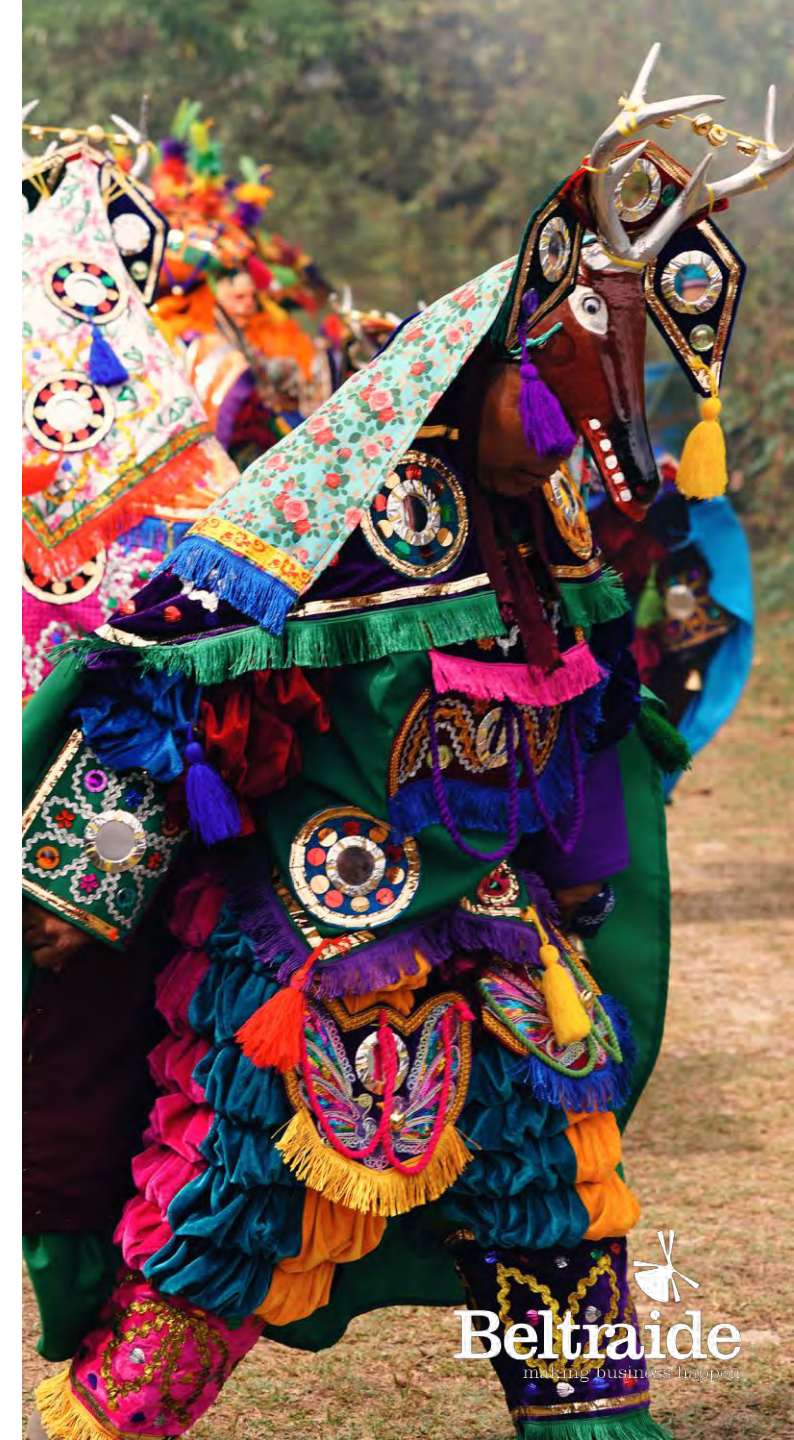
Strong agribusiness performance—**USD 312m in output** and double-digit growth in key crops—drives opportunities in processing, controlled-environment farming and aquaculture. Logistics is buoyed by **USD 2.3bn** in trade flows and **80% maritime movement**, supporting new distribution and cold-chain hubs. Renewable energy is advancing quickly, with **~60% renewables**, rising demand and strong momentum for solar, biomass, storage and microgrids.

Belize provides access to an English-speaking talent pool and competitive operating costs.

Belize is the only Central American country where **English is the official language**, offering seamless global communication and a strategic workforce advantage. A **190k labour force growing 2% annually** supports business expansion, while labour and utility costs remain competitive across key roles and industries.

Belize offers strong, investor-friendly incentives with duty exemptions and long-term tax relief.

Investors benefit from **7-year customs and tax exemptions** on equipment across agribusiness, logistics and renewable energy, as well as **up to 10-year corporate tax holidays** for export-oriented and clean-energy projects via the Fiscal Incentives Programme and Designated Processing Areas (p.21). This robust toolkit lowers setup costs and accelerates time-to-market.



1.

A favourable business environment



411k

Population¹



\$3.2bn

GDP¹



190k

Labour force²



What makes Belize attractive

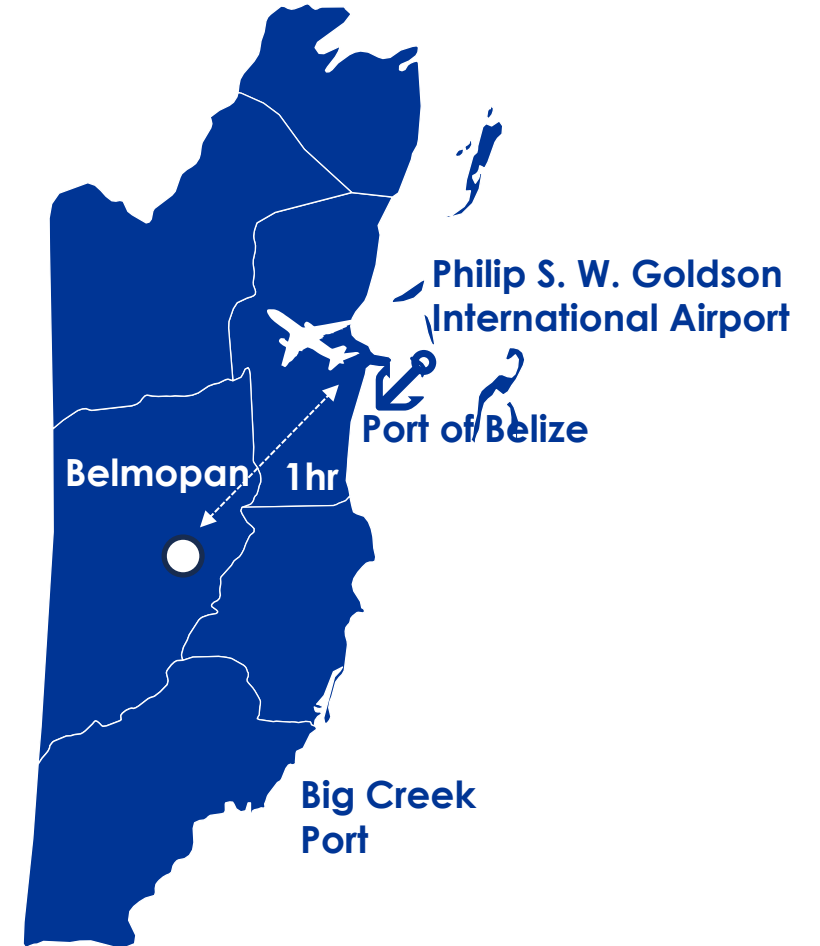
Belize offers a stable and improving business environment, with rising FDI stock, strengthening export performance and a predictable medium-term growth outlook.

Its regulatory framework scores above the world average in business, labour and monetary freedom, providing a supportive and reliable foundation for investment.

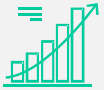
Sources: ¹ IMF World Economic Outlook, ² International Labour Organization

INVEST IN BELIZE

Access to a well connected and a healthy economy



Stable growth and rising investment potential



Rising investment stock

FDI stock increased by 4.8% in 2024 demonstrating positive investor sentiment and continued capital inflows into Belize's economy¹.



Growing export performance

Exports of goods reached US\$277mn in 2024, a 9% increase from 2023 highlighting Belize's strengthening position in regional and international trade³.



Stable growth outlook

With a GDP of US\$3.2bn, Belize's economy is projected to grow at an average annual rate of 2.1% between 2026 and 2030 offering a steady and predictable economic trajectory that supports long-term investment planning².



Supportive regulatory environment

Belize scores above the world average in business, labour and monetary freedom reflecting a regulatory environment that generally supports private enterprise and offers stable foundation for investment⁴.



Belize's economy is projected to grow at an average annual rate of 2.1%, offering a steady and predictable economic trajectory

A worker wearing a white hard hat, safety glasses, and white gloves is working on an electrical panel. The worker is wearing a blue plaid shirt. The background is a solid blue color.

2.

Access talent and utilities at a competitive cost

Access to a qualified pool of talent

Why Belize?

Belize combines an English-speaking workforce, expanding talent pool and growing skills capacity, making it an attractive location for agribusiness, logistics and other cost-efficient operations.

Modest but growing labour force

Belize's 190k workforce is expected to grow 2% annually, providing a reliable talent pool to support business growth¹.

English-speaking workforce

As the only English-speaking country in Central America, Belize offers a major advantage for investors ensuring seamless communication with global markets.

Developing tertiary education system

Belize's higher education network, led by the University of Belize, Galen University and regional colleges provide training across various fields to support the country's growing need for skilled professionals.

“
Belize is the only Central American country with English as its official language, offering a distinct advantage



Access talent and utilities at a competitive cost

Operating costs

Role	Labour costs (USD) ¹
Civil Engineer	\$22,687
Construction Worker	\$7270
Warehouse Manager	\$24,204
Transportation and Shipping Supervisor	\$10,175
Labourer	\$6027

“
Engineer salaries in Belize are 75% lower than in the US¹

Utility	Utility costs (USD) ²
Electricity	\$0.17 kWh

Sources: 1 World Salaries (2025), 2 Global Petrol Prices

3.

Investment opportunities



12%

Agriculture's contribution to GDP



\$312m

Agricultural production value in 2021



\$21m

Annual aquaculture & seafood export



INVEST IN BELIZE

Unlocking growth in value-added and sustainable **agribusiness**

Belize presents strong opportunities in value-added agribusiness, backed by consistent sector growth—agricultural output reached USD 312m in 2021, with grains growing 21%, vegetables 15%, and livestock 13% year-on-year.

Investors benefit from underutilised arable land, a tourism industry exceeding one million visitors annually, and strategic access to the US, Mexico and CARICOM. The country's USD 21m aquaculture export base and reliable incentives framework further support scalable, export-driven ventures across crops, livestock and blue-economy value chains.

	Key anchor firms and business associations		
Sugar + Bio-energy			
Beverages			
Cocoa		Condiments	
Livestock			

Sources: Ministry of Agriculture; SIB; FAOSTAT; BELTRAIDE.

Unlocking growth in value-added and sustainable **agribusiness**

Key Investment Opportunities



Expand Tropical Fruit & Vegetable Processing

Belize produces significant volumes of citrus, mango, papaya and pineapple, yet most value addition occurs offshore. Processing demand is rising, supported by **double-digit growth in fruit and vegetable output** and strong exports of citrus products. Investors can capture regional market demand by building juice, purée, concentrate and dried-fruit facilities, backed by **duty-free import of machinery** and preferential access to **US and CARICOM markets**.



Develop Greenhouse & Hydroponic Production

Belize still imports a large share of vegetables during off-season periods, despite **15% annual growth in domestic vegetable output**. Strong tourism demand and rising retail standards create immediate space for controlled-environment production. Investors can introduce high-efficiency greenhouse or hydroponic systems, supported by **fiscal incentives** and **duty exemptions** on structures and irrigation equipment.



Scale Sustainable Aquaculture & Mariculture

Belize's aquaculture sector already generates **USD 21m in exports**, with strong global demand for sustainably farmed shrimp, tilapia and emerging species such as seaweed. The country offers ideal biosecure conditions and a track record of exporting to the **US, Mexico and EU**. Opportunities include modern hatcheries, RAS systems, feed production and value-added seafood processing.

Unlocking growth in value-added and sustainable **agribusiness**

Key Investment Opportunities



Build post-harvest, cold-chain & packaging infrastructure

Belize experiences high post-harvest losses due to **limited cold storage and grading capacity**, particularly for fruits, vegetables and seafood. Opportunities exist to develop modern packhouses, refrigerated warehouses, ripening chambers and export-grade packaging lines. This strengthens value chains and unlocks higher-value export markets.



Establish livestock feed & Agro-input manufacturing

Growing poultry, cattle and aquaculture industries require increasing volumes of feed and agricultural inputs. Belize currently **imports most feed premixes and supplements**, creating potential for competitive local manufacturing. Investors gain reliable, year-round demand and access to incentives for milling equipment and raw-material imports



Invest in cocoa, coconut & specialty Agro-processing

Belize produces high-quality cacao and coconut used in premium foods and wellness products globally, yet **most processing occurs outside the country**. Investors can localise activities such as chocolate production, oil extraction and specialty food processing under **Designated Processing Area incentives**, improving export margins and capturing growing niche demand.



80%

of Belize's trade moves through maritime routes



\$2.3bn

of imports and exports handled each year



>1m

annual tourists driving sustained demand



INVEST IN BELIZE

Unlocking growth in logistics and regional distribution

Belize offers a compelling platform for logistics and distribution investment, leveraging its strategic position between Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean, and its role as a natural gateway for USD 2.3 billion in annual trade flows.

More than 80% of goods move through its maritime transport system, while expanding tourism—exceeding one million visitors annually—drives strong demand for food, retail and cargo logistics. Modernisation of ports, highways and digital trade systems is underway, creating investor-ready opportunities in warehousing, distribution, cold chain and value-added logistics services.

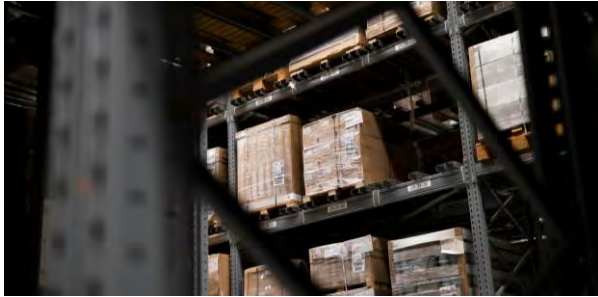
Key anchor firms and business associations

Shipping lines	 CROWLEY	 CMA CGM	 MAERSK
Freight	 Bowen Bowen	Port	 PORT of BELIZE LTD <i>A Port with a Global Perspective</i>
Distribution	 BRODIE'S	 Grace	

Sources: Belize Port Authority; DGFT; BTB; World Bank Logistics Capacity Assessment.

Unlocking growth in **logistics** and regional distribution

Key Investment Opportunities



Develop modern warehousing & distribution hubs

Belize's trade volumes continue to grow, yet **modern Grade-A warehousing remains limited**, especially near Belize City and industrial zones. Investors can develop distribution centres and bonded warehouses to support import consolidation, regional distribution and e-commerce fulfilment. Demand is driven by **retail, FMCG, tourism and construction supply chains**.



Expand cold-chain & controlled-temperature logistics

High-value sectors—agribusiness, fisheries, pharmaceuticals and hospitality—face **cold-chain gaps**, resulting in spoilage and reduced export competitiveness. Opportunities include refrigerated warehousing, temperature-controlled cross-docking, and integrated cold logistics serving domestic producers and export markets.



Invest in port-adjacent industrial & logistics parks

With **80% of trade moving by sea**, demand is rising for port-adjacent logistics estates offering container storage, light assembly, packaging and value-added services. Investors can leverage Belize's proximity to Mexico and the US Gulf Coast to create competitive transshipment and distribution platforms.

Unlocking growth in **logistics** and regional distribution

Key Investment Opportunities



Upgrade inland transport & multimodal connectivity

Belize's major highways—the George Price and Philip Goldson—carry the majority of national freight, yet **transportation networks require modernisation to handle increasing cargo volumes**. Private investment in trucking fleets, consolidation centres and multimodal linkages will improve reliability for export sectors and strengthen regional trade corridors.



Digital trade facilitation & e-commerce logistics

Belize is advancing digitalisation of customs, permitting and trade processes, aligning with regional commitments under CARICOM. Investors can introduce **digital freight platforms, customs-support services, e-commerce fulfilment centres** and last-mile delivery solutions as online retail expands.



Develop coastal & regional maritime services

Belize's coastline supports opportunities in **short-sea shipping, coastal cargo movement and maritime services**, including crew logistics, vessel maintenance and fuel bunkering. Proximity to Quintana Roo and Honduras enhances potential for regional maritime routes and feeder services.



~60%

share of
electricity from
renewables



+3.5%

Annual growth of
electricity
demand



~14%

of power imported



INVEST IN BELIZE

Unlocking growth in Belize's renewable energy transition

Belize is advancing an ambitious transition toward a clean, reliable and affordable energy system, with renewables already supplying around 60% of national electricity through hydro, biomass and solar generation.

Rising demand—growing 3–4% per year—combined with continued dependence on imported electricity from Mexico highlights the need for new domestic generation capacity. The Government's National Energy Policy prioritises solar, biomass, waste-to-energy and grid resilience, creating strong momentum for private-sector investment supported by competitive incentives and power-purchase frameworks.

Key anchor firms and flagship projects

Utilities	
Bio-energy	
Solar	

Sources: National Energy Policy; BEL annual reports; Ministry of Public Utilities; CDB; CCREEE Energy Report Card.

Unlocking growth in Belize's renewable energy transition

Key Investment Opportunities



Utility-scale solar generation & hybrid systems

Belize offers strong solar irradiance and rising electricity demand, making utility-scale solar one of the most cost-effective investments. Opportunities exist for **20–60 MW solar farms**, hybrid solar-storage systems, and IPP projects that reduce reliance on imported power. Investors benefit from clear energy-policy direction and BEL's interest in expanding domestic clean generation.



Biomass & waste-to-energy projects

Belize's established sugar, citrus, livestock and agro-industrial sectors generate large volumes of biomass and organic waste. Expanding **bagasse cogeneration**, citrus-waste energy recovery, or municipal waste-to-energy solutions can supply reliable baseload power. Current biomass generation demonstrates viability and scalable potential for new IPPs.



Distributed energy, rooftop solar & commercial solar farms

Tourism, Agro-processing, retail and industrial operators face high daytime electricity consumption, creating strong demand for **rooftop solar, C&I solar farms, and microgrids**. Policy reforms supporting net metering, grid interconnection and tax exemptions on renewable equipment reduce investor entry barriers and accelerate deployment.

Unlocking growth in Belize's **renewable energy** transition

Key Investment Opportunities



Energy Storage & Grid-Stability Infrastructure

As Belize increases solar and biomass generation, demand is rising for **battery energy storage systems (BESS)** to stabilise the grid and reduce Mexico import dependence. Investors can partner with BEL or develop standalone storage projects integrated with renewable plants.



Rural Electrification & Microgrid Solutions

Remote and off-grid communities offer opportunities for **solar-battery microgrids**, improving energy access while reducing diesel dependence. Donor-funded programmes and government initiatives create an enabling environment for commercially viable private-led models.



Electric Mobility Infrastructure

Belize is piloting electric buses and EV adoption initiatives under regional clean-transport programmes. Investors can introduce **EV charging networks**, fleet charging solutions and renewable-powered mobility hubs positioned along key transport corridors and urban centres.



4.

Incentives and support

How Belize can support your investments



7-year customs & tax exemptions on machinery, greenhouses, irrigation and processing equipment under the Fiscal Incentives Programme.



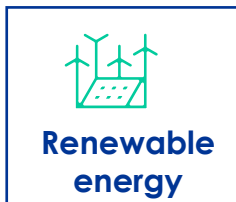
Up to 10-year tax holiday for export-oriented agribusiness and agro-processing projects (FIP & DPAs).



Duty-free import of equipment and materials for warehousing, transport, packaging and cold-chain operations.



Free-zone and DPA incentives offering full duty exemptions and reduced corporate tax for logistics operators.



7-year customs and tax exemptions on solar, storage, hybrid systems and clean-energy equipment.



Up to 10-year tax relief for renewable-energy developers operating in Designated Processing Areas.

“
Belize offers strong, investor-friendly incentives with duty exemptions and long-term tax relief

How Belize is supporting your investments

A coordinated network of ministries and agencies streamlines investment, regulation and sector development.

Key Institutions

<u>Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security & Enterprise (MAFSE)</u>	Supports agribusiness you through sector policies, technical assistance and market development for crop, livestock and Agro-processing ventures.
<u>Belize Agricultural Health Authority (BAHA)</u>	Manages sanitary and phytosanitary regulations, enabling safe export of agricultural and aquaculture products to premium markets
<u>Directorate General for Foreign Trade (DGFT)</u>	Improves trade logistics and market access, helping export-oriented investors benefit from Belize's agreements with CARICOM, the US and Mexico.
<u>Belize Port Authority</u>	Oversees maritime infrastructure, port regulations and ongoing modernisation efforts that enable efficient logistics and cargo movement.
<u>Belize Electricity Limited (BEL)</u>	Leads grid development and renewable-energy integration, partnering with private developers through IPP frameworks and clean-energy expansion plans.
<u>Ministry of Public Utilities, Energy & E-Governance</u>	Sets national energy policy and drives renewable-energy development, regulatory reform and investment opportunities in clean power.

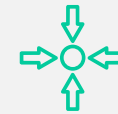


Free of charge services available from Beltraide



Comprehensive Information & Research

Provide complete information on business opportunities both within Belize (for investments) and outside of Belize (to facilitate exports), along with research-related assistance for specific client requests.



Investment Process Facilitation

Facilitate companies throughout the entire investment process, from initial inquiry to operational setup. This includes advocating for their best interests, providing key contacts with relevant Government Agencies, and streamlining regulatory procedures.



Business Development Guidance

Offer one-on-one guidance for developing robust business plans, effective marketing strategies, and innovative product development.



Incentive Program Administration

Administer the Fiscal Incentives Program and the Designated Processing Areas Program on behalf of the Government of Belize, guiding clients through eligibility and application..



Strategic Partnerships & Sourcing

Assist in identifying suitable local companies for joint ventures and connect clients with reliable local suppliers and other essential business support organisations.



Ongoing Client Dialogue & Aftercare

Conduct regular site visits to maintain constant dialogue with clients, ensuring that any issues affecting their sectors are promptly addressed and resolved.

INVEST IN BELIZE

Contact us

Beltraide

14 Orchid Garden Street,
Belmopan City, Belize

E-mail: info@belizeinvest.org.bz

Website: www.belizeinvest.org.bz



CARIBBEAN ASSOCIATION OF
INVESTMENT PROMOTION
AGENCIES



Prepared by



PROPRIETARY AND CONFIDENTIAL
Any use of this material within specific
permission from FT Locations is strictly prohibited