



SDGS in SIDS post COVID -19
David C. Smith,
The University of the West Indies

Moving
forward
requires SIDS
to :

Diversify

- Broaden economies beyond natural capital to ones based on human capital

Invest

- Build a culture of science & evidence-based policy
- Fund developing human capital
- Increase skill training & education
- Increase tertiary enrolment
- Increase access to funding

THE FUTURE
IS NOW
SCIENCE FOR ACHIEVING
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Four Big Problems affecting Human Wellbeing

- ▶ Waste
- ▶ Inequality
- ▶ Climate Change
- ▶ Biodiversity Loss



GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT REPORT

2019

SDGS

- ▶ Water
- ▶ Energy
- ▶ Industry and Innovation
- ▶ Cities & communities
- ▶ Partnerships

Key needs

- ▶ Agricultural efficiency, climate models
- ▶ Affordable renewables, innovation, efficiency
- ▶ External links, financing, human capital investment
- ▶ Reduced inequality, W&E efficiency retrofitting, natural solutions for resilience
- ▶ Increased capital flows, access to science, knowledge, improved technology flows & exchange

SIDS concerns 2022 about SDGs:

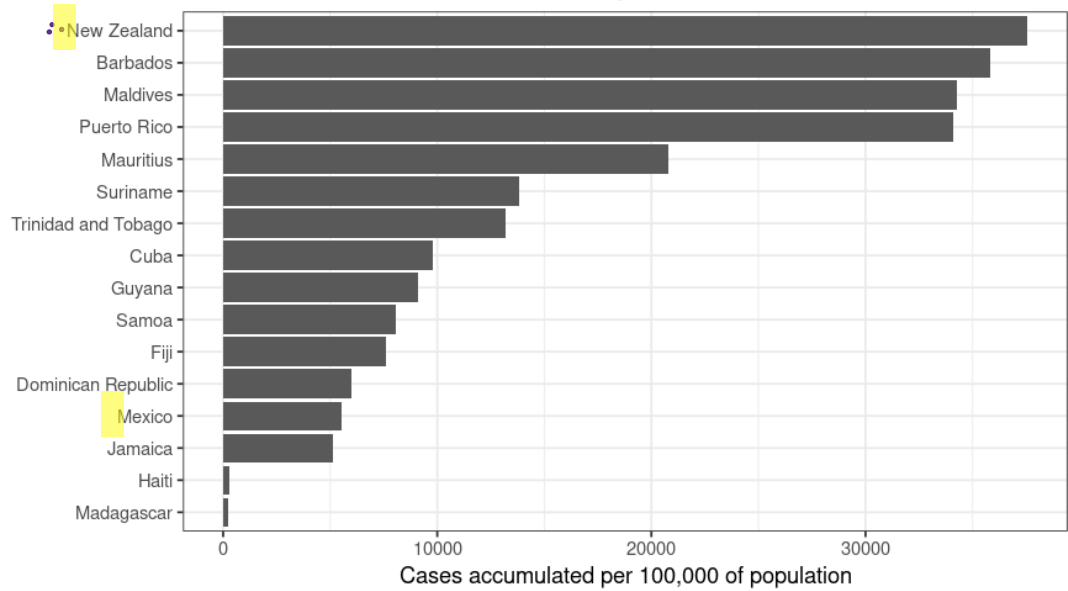
-8 years and counting

Subject to Global shocks but not able to influence them

Small open economies, often with narrow bases

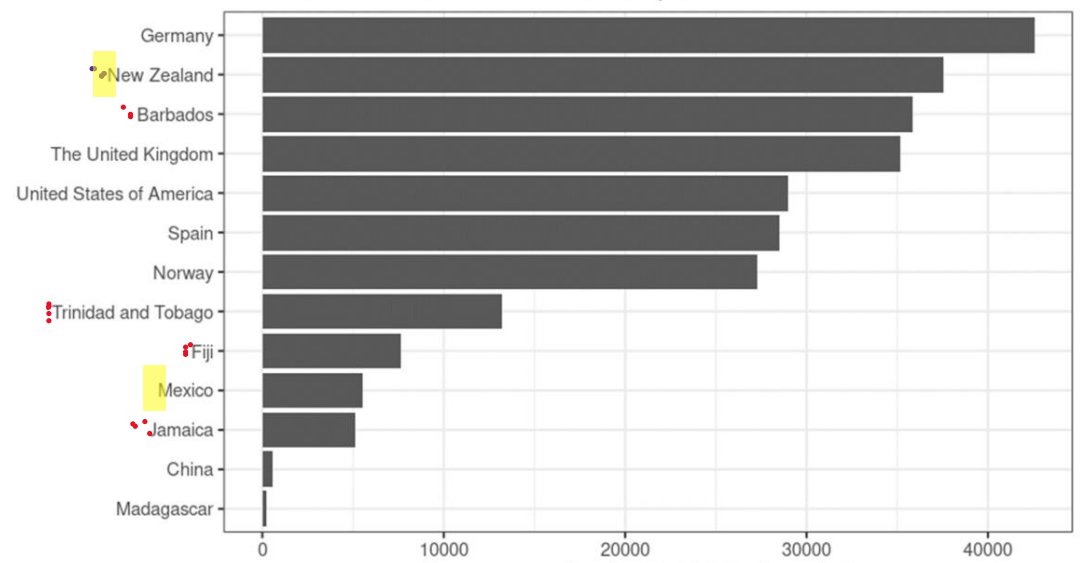
National resources may be small compared to the task

Cumulative COVID-19 cases intensity as of 2022-10-26

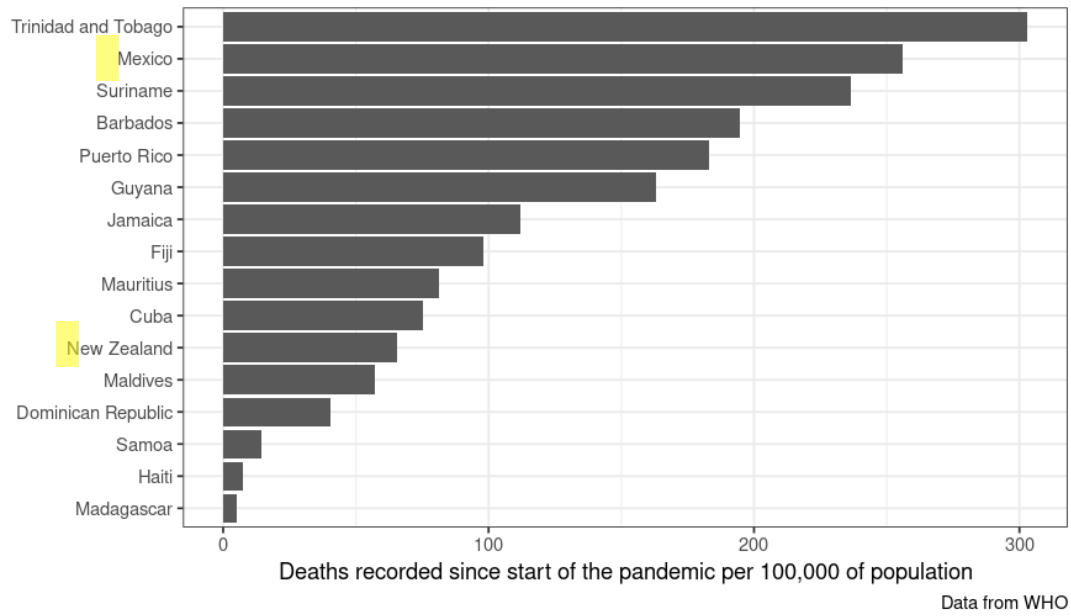


Data from WHO

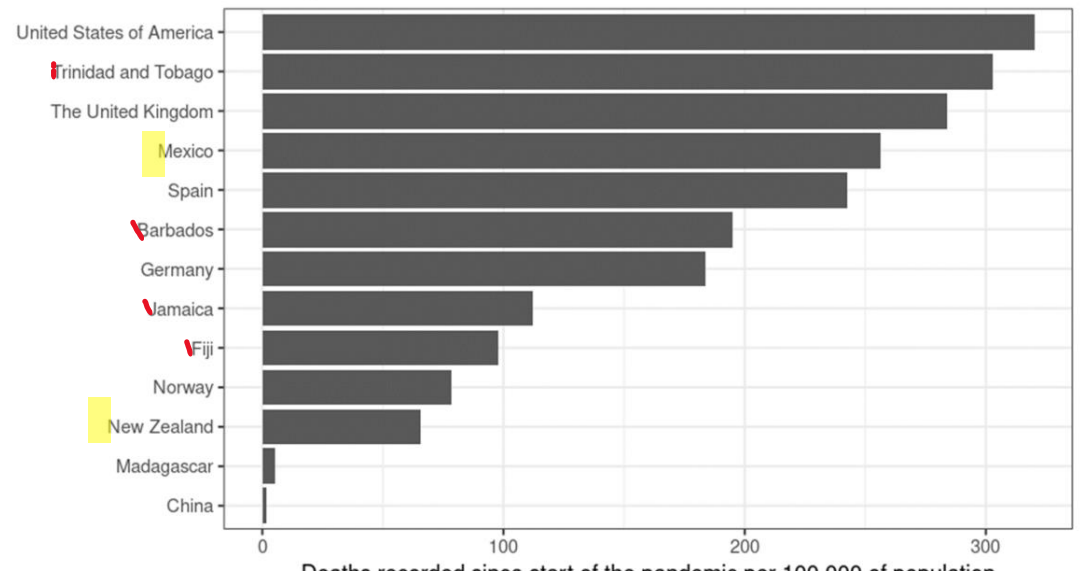
Cumulative COVID-19 cases intensity as of 2022-10-26



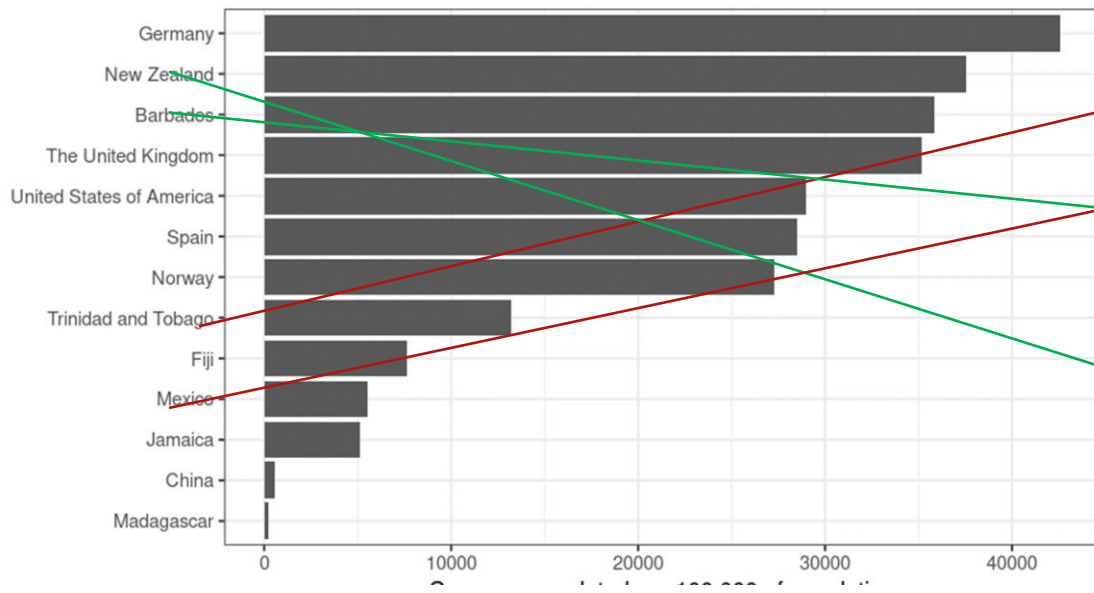
Intensity of accumulated COVID-19 Deaths as of 2022-10-26



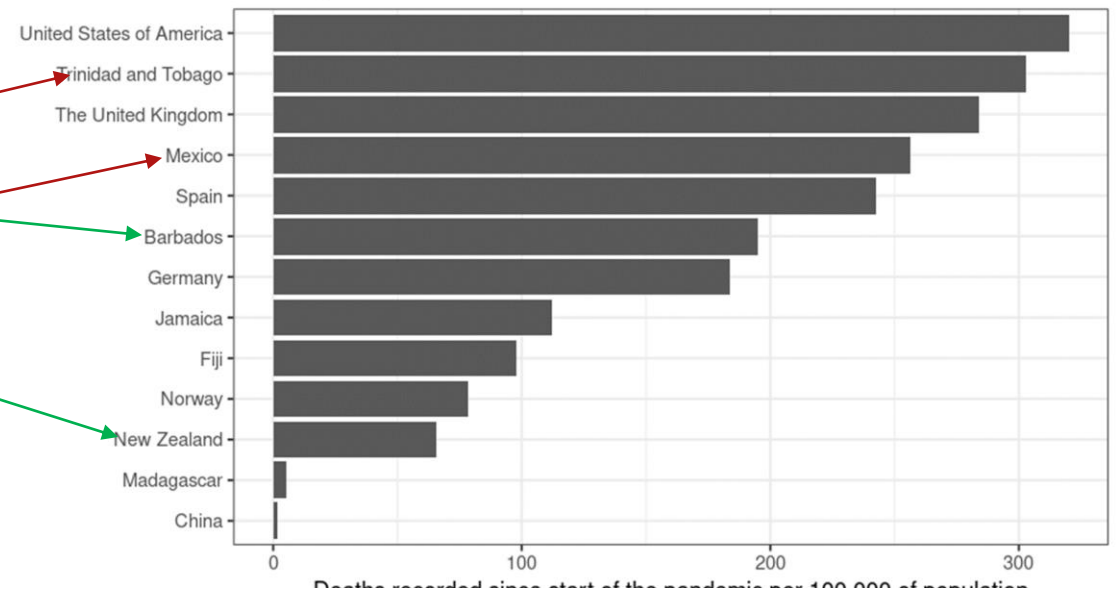
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Cumulative COVID-19 cases intensity as of 2022-10-26



Intensity of accumulated COVID-19 Deaths as of 2022-10-26





“Climate change poses an existential threat to the Jamaican standard of living and way of life.”

Commonwealth Secretariat, 2022

Tipping Point

Coral reefs (1.5C)

- 70%-90% loss globally
- Major source for fishing would be lost or highly degraded
- Main source of sand for beaches
- Fundamentally important to beach tourism

Many SIDS Economies based on Beach Tourism

COVID-19 hit them very hard!

SIDS are the world's most tourism-dependent (Mooney & Zegarra)

In the Americas, the top 14 are SIDS

Tourism-dependent economies suffered larger economic shocks (Gounder & Cox. 2022.)

SIDS need to diversify their economies (Gounder & Cox. 2022.)

Tourism ...

Many LDCs and SIDS are highly dependent on it;

It is a big part of GDP & tightly linked to the larger economy

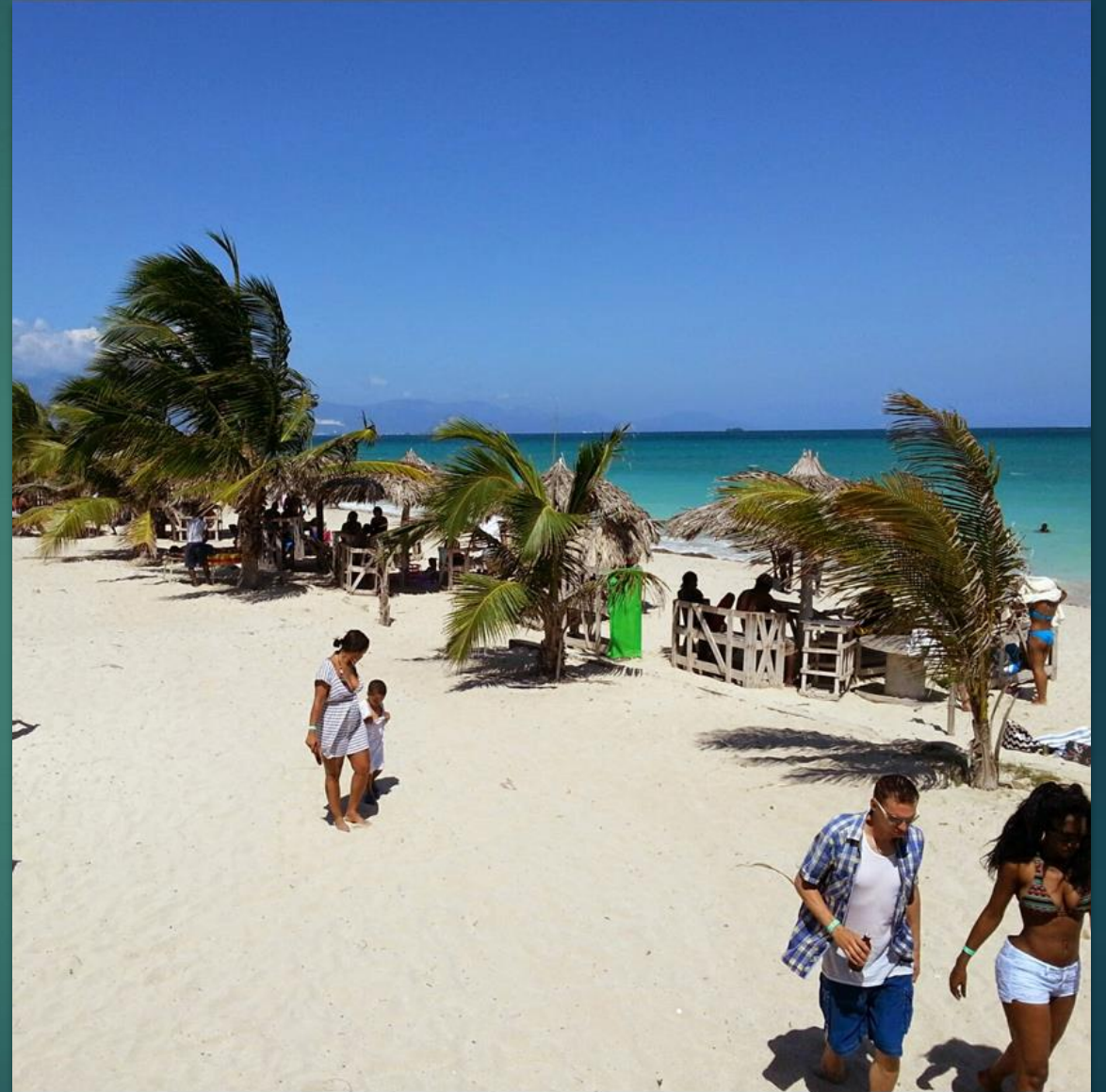
- E.g. Antigua, Kenya, Cabo Verde, Georgia, Croatia, Jamaica, Senegal, Thailand (UNCTAD 2020)

It's vulnerable to factors beyond national control (Climate, war, disease, economic shocks)



Tourism ...

- ▶ Some negative environmental & societal Impacts, but ...
- ▶ Provides much-needed jobs,
- ▶ But, low-skilled workers may be unable to work elsewhere
- ▶ How can SIDS diversify & increase the size of their tourism-dependent economies?



Moving forward requires:

Broadening

- Broadening economies beyond natural capital to ones based on human capital

Policies

- Build a culture of science & evidence-based policy
- Fund developing human capital
- Skill training & education
- Increase tertiary enrolment
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References

Gounder, Aruna, and Carmen Cox. 2022. 'Exploring the Role of Tourism Dependency on COVID-19 Induced Economic Shock in the Small Island Developing States'. *Current Issues in Tourism* 25 (7): 1151–68. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13683500.2021.1989386>.

Mooney, Henry, and Maria Alejandra Zegarra. 2020. 'Extreme Outlier: The Pandemic's Unprecedented Shock to Tourism in Latin America and the Caribbean'. Inter-American Development Bank. <https://doi.org/10.18235/0002470>.

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