

INVEST

BELIZE

VOLUME 7

Beltraide



WWW.BELIZEINVEST.ORG.BZ



BELTRAIDE

1997

Trade and Investment Service (TIPS) Developed

1998

TIPS renamed to BELTRAIDE

2000
BELTRAIDE
Act established



Beltraide



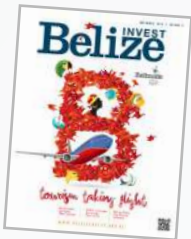
1st Edition of Made in Belize Catalogue launched

National Export Strategy launched

BA1 Women's Development Entrepreneurship Training to empower women who survived abusive situations

INVESTBelize Magazine Volume 4: Tourism Taking Flight

Annual Entrepreneurship Convention (EntreCon) launched



2014

INVESTBelize Volume 3: Cruise Tourism Growth

EXPORTBelize function refocus efforts on export and development

Belize Training and Enterprise Centre (BTEC) added

INVESTBelize Volume 4: AgriBusiness on the Forefront



2016

National Investment Policy and Strategy mandate approved by Cabinet

Belize Investment Portfolio Campaign launched

National Entrepreneurship Month launched



2017

INVESTBelize Magazine Volume 5: Your Competitive Hub for Investments

Investment Spotlight E-Newsletter launched



2018

Subcommittee on Strategic Planning and Human Resources Management Created

EPZ Program amended to Designated Processing Areas (DPA) Program

INVESTBelize Magazine Volume 6: Our Green Economy, Your Trade Opportunity

AT 20 IN 2020

2005

BELTRAIDE assigned Enterprise Development function

2007

SME Development Unit formed

2013

BELTRAIDE given roles in the Export Processing Zone (EPZ) programme

BELTRAIDE begins serving as the Secretariat to the Cabinet Sub-Committee for Investments

INVESTBelize Volume 1:
Belize's Thriving Offshore Industry



2011

BelizeINVEST centralized to lead investment promotion, business facilitation and aftercare

Belize MSME Policy & Strategy launched

2012

Sub-Units created at BELTRAIDE:

- Events Planning & Public Relations
- Projects
- Research

SBDCBelize formed with assistance from the University of Texas, San Antonio

2019

National Investment Policy and Strategy project launched

2nd Edition of Made in Belize Catalogue launched

Female Entrepreneurs Program launched

MSME Enhancement Programme launched

Hosted 2 Investment Missions in Partnership with the Republic of China, Taiwan



SBDCBelize
making small business happen

Mek Wi Talk Business
Webseries launched

INVEST Belize Magazine Volume 7:
BELTRAIDE at 20 in 2020!



BELTRAIDE Investment Services Network initiated

EXPORTBelize
connecting global opportunities

btec
Transforming Belize
Transforming Lives

BelizeINVEST
promoting . generating . connecting



- ENTRECON: Belize's largest entrepreneurship convention that promotes our entrepreneurs;
- the MSME Enhancement Program (MEP) that provides duty exemption on selected labeling and packaging materials,
- the Female Entrepreneurship Program (FEP) that offers funding and training opportunities to women in business,
- the KOLBE-BELTRAIDE partnership that helps to offer second chances to inmates via business development opportunities for life after prison,
- the Designated Processing Areas (DPA) and Fiscal Incentives Program that provide significant benefits to foreign and local investors in Belize; and
- the Made in Belize catalogue that features some of our remarkable products, which has led to the tremendous success for over 200 clients through local and foreign promotions.

And while we are ecstatic about those achievements, this magazine focuses, not only on the success of the team at BELTRAIDE, but also pays homage to some of our clients who have seen their businesses grow through the assistance of BELTRAIDE. As a further motivation, these achievements have allowed Belize to be seen as one of the fastest growing countries in the region for doing business by creating a fair, responsible and conducive environment for foreign investments. This is made possible by the commitment of the team of BELTRAIDE whose clearly defined focus has enabled them to work together with you to develop, deliver and support customized solutions that benefit our clients and our country.

2020 marks the 20th anniversary of the establishment of BELTRAIDE, an iconic age during an iconic time. In those years, thanks to the hard work and dedication of the staff, there has been remarkable accomplishments that have led to the important organizational transformation.

We are aware that the challenges and opportunities impacting the industry have become inextricably global. To face this uncertain future and to respond to the demand for innovation in our industry, we have made a commitment to continue to be a catalyst for economic growth and development. The team has responded to the fundamental question on how to be more effective in promoting our clients and building our economy by looking at new ways of Making Business Happen.

In light of the rapidly evolving circumstances with COVID-19, we remain committed to providing the same quality of support and service as usual. The new way has allowed us to transition to virtual professional development, business development and continuity and soft skills training given to our Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) that are struggling.

Increased investments in Belize's priority areas such as, Offshore Outsourcing Services and BPOs, Sustainable Energy, Tourism & Leisure, Fisheries and Aquaculture, and Agribusiness and Agro-Processing has translated to thousands of employment opportunities for Belizeans across the country.

While we adapt to the new way of business, we also remember some of our proudest accomplishments over the past 20 years, which include, but are unquestionably not limited to:

- the Launch of the National Investment and Policy Strategy (NIPS) that promotes local and foreign direct investments in Belize;

These meaningful cobblestones undoubtedly map out a route full of opportunities for at least the next 20 years! We are all very excited about this edition of the InvestBelize and the contribution it will make to the essential and ongoing conversation about growing Belize's socio and macro economy. While factors that are key to sustained growth, such as capital investment and productivity, continues to be threatened amidst COVID-19, the determination of our country to bounce back and find new ways of doing business must always be taken into account.

For now, I wish most sincere wishes to the BELTRAIDE staff for their successful development, for new creative achievements and for your commitment to your clients and to Belize. To our stakeholders I thank you for your fruitful partnerships and I welcome you to read the stories, presented in this magazine, of our very resilient people. This journey has been a stimulating but remarkable one. I wish to remind you that together, we will continue to move forward and together we will triumph for our economy and for our country.

HON. TRACY TAEGAR-PANTON

Minister with Responsibility for Investment, Trade and Commerce,
Ministry of Economic Development, Petroleum, Investment, Trade
& Commerce

REASONS TO INVEST IN BELIZE

BILINGUAL LANGUAGE SKILLS

TIME ZONE ADVANTAGE

PROXIMITY & INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIVITY

STABLE ENVIRONMENT

STRONG GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

STABLE CURRENCY

NEWLY UPGRADED INFRASTRUCTURE

VISA EXEMPTIONS

TOP TOURIST DESTINATION

MULTIPLE INVESTMENT AGREEMENTS

MULTIPLE TRADE AGREEMENTS



Message FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

Dear BELTRAIDE Staff and Stakeholders,

A twentieth anniversary is a defining moment in someone's life. It undoubtedly brings the Belize Trade and Investment Development Service to a critical juncture in its young and storied history.

Congratulations on achieving a milestone! It is an achievement created and shared by all of you, employees and clients alike, who have played a part in the work we do and the services that we provide.

The success of BELTRAIDE is neither accidental nor coincidental. In 2000 BELTRAIDE was designed as an agency to create and promote a dynamic and competitive business environment. Fast forward to 2020, BELTRAIDE champions and redefines the way Belize stimulates investor confidence; embraces entrepreneurship; supports business growth and drives innovation. The driving force behind this acceleration is the BELTRAIDE team that works arduously to position investments and business developments in sound principles and best practices.

You have championed BELTRAIDE's transformation from a fledgling agency, since its inception twenty years ago, to a reputable institution whose influence spans across the globe. The relationships you have built, the partnerships you have forged, and the policies and regulations you have shaped will be critical to our post-COVID-19 socio-economic recovery. The people we serve will be at the heart of what we do in the next few years as we rebuild, recover and renew our position in the business world.

These impacts are already altering Belize's economic and social fabric - changing the face of business and industry as we knew it. And while this is uncharted territory for most, if not all, entrepreneurs - the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and startups are central to the health and strength of Belize's economy. Since the advent of the pandemic, the focus is on entrepreneurship as a solution to stimulate economic recovery post-pandemic.

Likewise, we have seen the effects of the pandemic on investments but have remained resilient through the development of programs and the reevaluation of incentives that continue to reassure to investors that Belize is THE place to do business.

Our approach in this edition is not just to celebrate our past accomplishments but to listen, ask and bring together people who, in their own context, are wrestling with real and immediate issues, and have met and overcome obstacles. We want to be able to bring people who bring theoretical perspectives and a talent for new thinking together to find solutions to continue to develop our country.

On this twentieth anniversary, I recognize the enterprises that have anchored their steadfast belief and trust in our guidance. I thank them for the investment of their time and money to entrepreneurship and their dedication to innovation which have helped us to guide Belize's socio-economic development. As we celebrate you, our clients, on this our twentieth anniversary, I ask for your partnership for another twenty years.

These next years may be the most important in our history as we respond to the dramatic economic fallout that follows in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. While the pandemic has highlighted gaps in the ecosystem within which we operate, it has shown us where the strengths and opportunities lie.

And so for your strengths, your perseverance, your creativity and your commitment, I once again thank you and congratulate you on this 20th anniversary!

MR. DUANE BELISLE

Chief Executive Officer for Investment, Trade & Commerce,
Ministry of Economic Development, Petroleum, Investment, Trade
& Commerce

Belize in Numbers

Land Area:
8,867 sq. miles

Statistics

3.18%
Population
Growth

0.3%
GDP Real
Growth

0.2%
Inflation
Rate

1.75%
Business
Tax



Population Density:
46.3 per sq. mile

Labour Force:
190,307

Minimum Wage:
\$1.65/hr

Average Cost of Water
\$4.36 (0-1,000 gals)
\$9.30 (7,000 gals)



Average Cost of
Electricity per KWh
\$0.18

\$135.9
In Foreign Direct
Investment Inflows

9.0%
Weighted Average
Lending Rate

1.3%
Weighted Average
Deposit Rate

\$4559.7
GDP Per
Capita

\$231.1
million

Domestic
Exports

\$484.3
million

Merchandise
Imports

\$1,873
million

Gross Domestic
Product (GDP)

\$138.9
million

Gross Official
International
Reserves

3.2
months

Import
Coverage of
Reserves

***All rates in USD - Figures as of 2019**

GDP Represented at Current Market Prices || Source: Central Bank of Belize



From
THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The year 2020 has truly challenged various economies globally, including Belize, as the COVID-19 pandemic has shaken the world towards a new normal. Such challenges include economic recessions as well as a forecasted downward pressure on global foreign direct investment (FDI). Despite these global challenges, Belize continues to maintain its resilience through sustainable investments across multiple industries.

As we prepare for the future of business in a post-COVID world, the Government of Belize (GOB) remains vigilant in its efforts to curtail the effects of the pandemic in Belize. This includes the launch of its National Economic Recovery Strategy, as well as, various fiscal and economic stimulus packages that seek to ensure that Belize’s economy remains resilient and cushioned against the shocks being experienced globally. Responding quickly, the Government of Belize (GOB) was then able to quickly implement its MSME Support Program (MSP) offering financial relief in the form of grants and loans to enterprises affected by the pandemic.

As we reach the milestone of our 20th anniversary in 2020 since the establishment of the Belize Trade and Investment Development Service (BELTRAIDE), we continue to remain rooted in advancing our efforts under our ambitious strategic plan to enhance economic growth with progress and prosperity for all Belizeans. Since the seed was initially planted, BELTRAIDE’s overarching mission has remained steadfast in enhancing Belize’s prosperity by fostering investor confidence, entrepreneurship, business growth and innovation. This mission further extends towards BELTRAIDE’s vision to build Belize’s economy by promoting development, innovation and competitiveness, which continues to remain key during such challenging times.

In observance of the mission, in April of this year, we were able to conclude our online National Rapid Private Sector Economic Impact Assessment Survey which indicated many of the challenges faced by micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs). This survey has allowed us to put programs in place, such as the Access to Finance series, and expand on other programs, such as the Belize Investment Portfolio, that offers support to industries businesses affected by COVID-19.

Over the last 20 years, BELTRAIDE has also shown that it is able to adapt to an ever-changing environment both nationally, regionally and globally through growing public and private sector partnerships. These partnerships have enabled us to increase our capabilities in working to enhance Belize’s competitiveness under various initiatives in trade, investment, entrepreneurship and training.

In moving forward under the post-COVID-19 era, we continue to adapt and invest in online platforms and digital technologies that have further enabled greater efficiencies in our operations. This includes the hosting of several meetings, seminars and trainings online including the launch of our very own web series show ‘Mek Wi Talk Business’.

As we celebrate yet another milestone publication under Volume 7 of the Invest Belize Magazine, we cannot emphasize enough that the true impacts of recovery and transformation can only be realized through continued public and private sector collaboration of all stakeholders involved within our business ecosystem. The private sector in particular remains a key stakeholder in realizing many of the targets set in Belize under the sustainable development goals (SDGs).

In closing, I take this opportunity to thank all our stakeholders and partners for your continued collaboration and partnership over the last 20 years. Our team continues to advance the momentum that we have created by being an active part of Belize’s socio-economic development focusing on building resilience through sustainable investments that keep people, planet and prosperity at the forefront. We look forward to continue collaborating and to working with you in realizing the many investment opportunities that exist in Belize, your natural niche.

DR. LEROY ALMENDAREZ

Executive Director,
BELTRAIDE



Beltraide
making business happen

The Belize Trade & Investment Development Service is Belize's national economic development agency focusing on the following:



**Investment Generation,
Business Facilitation & Aftercare**



**Skills Training &
Job Preparedness**



**Enterprise Development
& Innovation**



**Trade Promotion &
Export Development**

For more information, visit us online:
www.belizeinvest.org.bz



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CONNECTING THROUGH TRADE: BELIZE TRADE RELATIONSHIPS EXPANSION

BY TRICIA GIDEON

TRADE ECONOMIST, CARICOM/ CSME UNIT,
DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR FOREIGN TRADE (DGFT)



Tremendous opportunities exist for trade expansion under Belize's existing trade agreements. Belize, as a member of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), benefits from preferential trading arrangements such as the United States of America's (USA) Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI), the Caribbean-Canada Preferential Trading Arrangement (CARIBCAN), and five CARICOM bilateral trade agreements with its Latin American neighbours: Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Cuba, Colombia and Venezuela. Furthermore, Belize is signatory to two Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA) that provide duty-free quota-free market access to its products. The EPA with the European Union has existed since 2008 and the agreement with the United Kingdom (UK) is foreseen to enter into force when the UK leaves the EU at the end of December 2020. These EPAs, apart from CARICOM-CSME, are

the only other agreement that facilitates trade in services. In addition, Belize has in place a Partial Scope Agreement (PSA) with Guatemala that allows the parties to grant tariff preferences on a limited number of goods and is currently pursuing a similar trade agreement with Mexico. Within the World Trade Organization (WTO) multilateral negotiation framework, Belize has joined development alliances such as the Small and Vulnerable Economies group to secure and advance common interests and asymmetrical treatment, taking into account economic characteristics and needs.

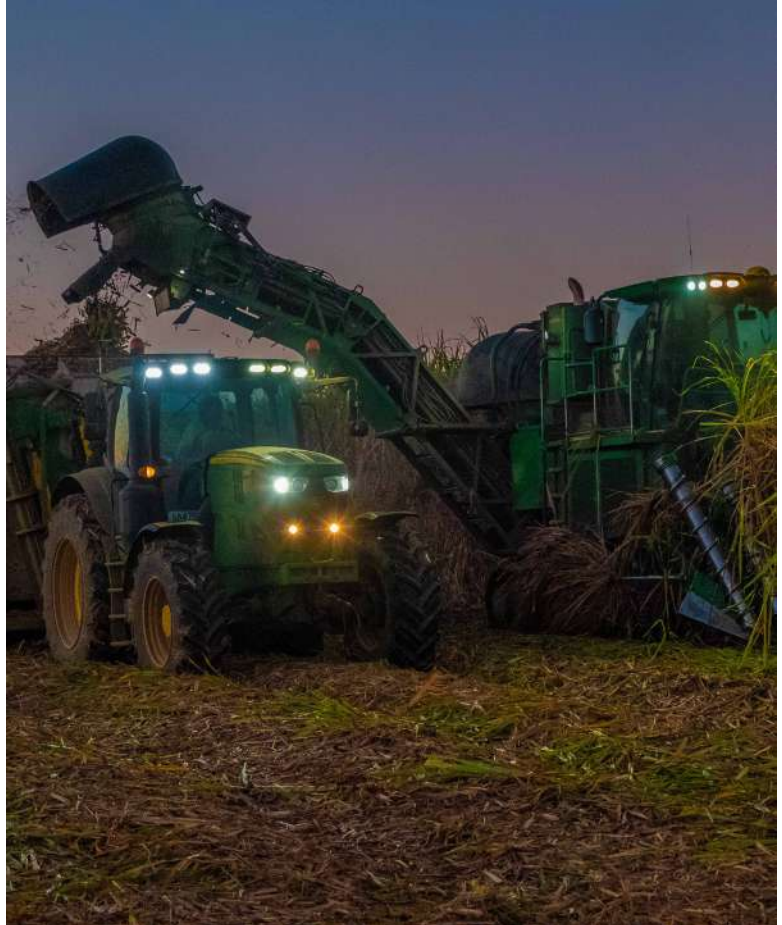
The USA is Belize's largest trading partner for both imports and exports. Current exports to the USA include sugar, fish, lobster and conch, petroleum, citrus and its oils, sauces and condiments. In 2019, exports to the USA amounted to BZ\$74.5 million (18 % of total world exports), mostly exported

under the CBI. The renewal of the CBI is dependent on the US Congress annual review and approval from the WTO membership. Belize recognizes the importance of the CBI on its export performance and the need to secure new markets given the uncertainty of the US foreign trade policy which can impact the continuity of the CBI¹.

CARICOM remains a viable market for Belizean products and holds significant trade opportunities for new non-traditional exports such as pineapple juice, poultry, and refined sugar. Belize maintains a positive trade balance within CARICOM. In 2019, exports exceeded BZ\$85 million, accounting for 20.6% of total world exports inclusive of citrus, red kidney beans, petroleum, sugar, among others. Additionally, the consistent regional demand for a number of products has been identified through the CARICOM Common External Tariff (CET) suspension mechanism. Belize is suited for production of soybean meal, crude soybean oil, peanuts, ginger powder, cinnamon powder, oregano, and rosemary leaves. CARICOM trade is largely commodity based; thus, Belizean producers have the potential to integrate themselves into regional value chain systems.

Belize's export trade with the Central American region and Mexico has been very minimal although these markets represent tremendous trade opportunities. In an effort to take advantage of these markets, Belize has signed and ratified a PSA with Guatemala that covers 150 specified tradable products between both Parties; seventy-two (72) products originating from Belize and seventy-eight (78) products originating from Guatemala. It is also pursuing a similar trade agreement with Mexico. However, data analysis reveals that trade with Central America and Mexico has been to the benefit of these countries, despite trading on a non-preferential basis. In 2019, Belize's imports from Guatemala and Mexico amounted to 7.6% and 10.9%, respectively, of total world imports, while exports stood at 3.2% and 0.2% of total world exports respectively². Belize could enhance its export opportunities and improve competitiveness of the productive sector by improving trade relations with Central America and Mexico through the expansion of the existing agreement and the negotiation of new ones. This is critical for improving the domestic investment climate.

Belize signed on to the CARIFORUM-EU EPA, an agreement among the European Union, the CARICOM Member States and the Dominican



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CARICOM



Republic, in October 2008. The CARIFORUM-EU EPA provides duty-free-quota-free (DFQF) access to over 90% of all goods along with significant market access for services. In 2019, Belize exported 39% of its products to the UK and 14.2% to EU countries. Exports to the UK in significant quantities include sugar, bananas, citrus, and lobster; other EU countries imported lesser quantities of the same goods, along with sauces and condiments. As for services, since 2019, it accounts for over 60% of GDP in Belize. The provisions of the EPA have driven member states to organize and push for measures to better regulate their services sectors. Despite BREXIT, significant trade and cooperation prospects will remain with the UK as CARIFORUM has agreed and signed a CARIFORUM-UK EPA which is scheduled to take effect on 1 January, 2021³.

The negotiation of new trade agreements remains on Belize's development agenda both as a part of CARICOM and as an individual WTO member. In 2014, dialogue between Belize and the Republic of China (Taiwan) towards a possible trade agreement commenced at the technical level. The Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas (RTC) provides Belize with enough flexibility to negotiate a bilateral agreement, which is in agreement with one of the objectives of the National Trade Policy which aims to build and strengthen multilateral, regional and bilateral trade relations and enhance market access and entry. Negotiations towards establishing an Economic Cooperation Agreement between both countries began on November 5 concluding on November 11, 2019. Belize negotiated preferential treatment for sugar, beef, turkey, tilapia and other fish fillets, lobster and shrimp, cheese, beans, dried fruits, corn meal, cassava starch and flour, soya products, orange juice concentrate, and sauces, jams and jellies. Both countries reached an agreement in principle, which is currently being reviewed and is expected to be completed by the end of 2020.

Despite these favourable variables in Belize's trade and trade policy landscape, a number of indicators reflect the need for significant improvements in trade policy. Among these are the prioritisation of markets, enhancement of the investment climate to attract new investments to expand productive capacities and enable the private sector to make maximum use of Belize's market access rights under all trade agreements through enhanced abilities for meeting international standards for quality and food safety.

1 Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB) data, 2019.

2 SIB data, 2019, *ibid.*

3 SIB data, 2019, *ibid.*



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Boneless**



Award Winning Taste

TILAPIA FILLETS *Premium Frozen*

NUTRITIONAL VALUE

- CALORIES:** 128
- CARBS:** 0 GRAMS
- PROTEINS:** 26 GRAMS
- FATS:** 3 GRAMS
- NIACIN:** 24% Of The RDI
- VITAMIN B12:** 31% Of The RDI
- PHOSPHORUS:** 20% Of The RID
- SELENIUM:** 78% Of The RID
- POTASSIUM:** 20% Of The RID
- OMEGA:** 3

Fein Catch

ABOUT US:

Fein Catch Limited is a member of the Feinstein Group of Company and has been producing fine aquaculture product since 2014. It has receive local and global recognition for its all natural method of producing fine, natural aquaculture products.

The product contained in this package is backed by the excellent reputation of the Feinstein Group of Companies known for its great products and services for over twenty-five years.

ABOUT THE PRODUCT:

Fein Catch Limited Tilapia is grown from its very own brood stock, reared, harvested and process at its certified farm and plant located at Democracia Village, Belize District, Belize.

Our fillet are the finest in the region as it is grown using Israeli engineered technology which utilizes natural Green Water System. Fein Catch Limited Tilapia fish is surfaced fed with the finest protein source available globally. It is free from all hormones, antibiotics, and contaminants. Both the farm and the processing plant are FDA registered and certified by the Belize Agricultural Health Authority (BAHA).

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BELIZE CITY

**A MEMBER OF THE
FEINSTEIN GROUP OF COMPANIES**

TEXBEL

A Unique Blend of *Nature* in a Bottle

BY JENNIFER FAULKNER
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER,
TEXBEL FARMS INVESTMENTS, LLC



TexBel, founded in 2012, is leading the charge to spur sustainable economic growth in Belize, Central America. Our core belief highlights how well-aimed capital investments have a positive impact on the environment and quality of the lives of our workers, the local communities, our customers, and other stakeholders.

It all started when two Texans attended an investment conference in Belize, inspiring them to build a fully-integrated agricultural business centered on the production of coconuts and its by-products—particularly coconut water. J. Lindsey Short, Jr., a lawyer and agricultural enthusiast, already knew how special a place Belize was since he had been visiting Belize since the 1980's. Alan M. Arsht, a private investor, retired investment banker with years of extensive financial knowledge from working on Wall Street and an agricultural enthusiast, also spent years visiting Belize so it was only natural that these two life-long friends founded TexBel.

TexBel stands behind the inherent value that caring for the land and its people is not optional. Our workers are empowered to take part in the global market while using knowledge they have attained from living on the fertile land in Belize their whole lives. Through combining modern technology and Belizean farming techniques, we harvest only the best fruit at the right time. This means that all TexBel products contain juices with a peak combination of natural taste, sweetness, acidity, and quality.

One of our key goals is to become an integrated zero-waste farming and production business by using all biomass generated in the plant as a natural fertilizer for our farms. Furthermore, we are keen to help the indigenous communities near our four farms by providing quality of life improvements and also employment opportunities when possible.

Belize is not only home to one of the most fertile lands in the world, but it is also a strategic location for distribution. The



PHOTO CREDIT: TEXBEL FARMS



PHOTO CREDIT: TEXBEL FARMS

proximity to the United States, Canada, United Kingdom and European Union, multiple port facilities, British legal system, strong property rights, expert farmers, strong government support, and competitive investment incentive programs are all key advantages that add value to our business. All of this value had allowed TexBel to offer competitive prices and attractive opportunities to our clients while producing top notch products in the most sustainable way possible. TexBel is leading the way in Belize with its innovative efforts to reach developed markets with its value-added products.

FARMS AND PROCESSING PLANT

TexBel has four farms—Maya Center, TexStar, Camalote and LimeCo—with over 3,300 planted acres of Chactemal and Yellow Dwarf coconut, Persian limes, Valencia oranges, White Marsh grapefruit and other tropical fruits, including soursop, passion fruit, pineapple, cacao, and plantain.

In 2017, TexBel broke ground on a state-of -the-art, world-class fruit packing and juice processing facility that was completed in late 2019. The processing facility sits on a 10-acre Designated Processing Area in the Maya Center Village.

The dream of impeccable non-GMO fruits and juices led TexBel to commit to the Global GAP (Good Agricultural Practices) certification in 2013. The goal of sustainable production and processing techniques guided us to ensure the environment was protected as well as the life quality of our farmers and surrounding communities.

FARMING OUT-GROWER PROGRAM

TexBel cares about the land but above all, we care about the people of Belize, which is why we established a farming out-grower program in 2016. The farmers of Belize are proud of their Mayan and Spanish heritages, alongside their skills. Therefore, TexBel is happy to channel their skills to serve the greater good in the most comfortable and safest ways possible while making sure that they have the tools and training necessary to be successful. Our TexBel Nursery, located at our Maya Center Farm, trains local farmers on ethical agricultural practices so that they can benefit directly from higher prices for their crops and also benefit from a new cash market for crops that they may not have otherwise grown, such as coconut.

PRODUCTS

TexBel sells whole fruits, coconut water and fresh juices, such as orange, grapefruit, lime, pineapple, watermelon, and juice blends to both the local Belizean and export markets. Our wide range of products can be attested to the hard work of the people involved in TexBel.

All coconut water, juices and juice blends are cold-pressed and cold-processed by using High Pressure Processing (HPP), as an alternative to conventional heat pasteurization. HPP is a non-thermal, cold processing technique in which the juices in their final flexible packaging are subjected to high levels of hydrostatic pressure, inactivating the pathogens that would harm consumers (microorganisms), extending the shelf life and guaranteeing the food safety of the product. What does this really mean? It means that all TexBel coconut water, juices and juice blends are cold-pressed and cold-processed to preserve all nutrients without sacrificing flavor, but in a very safe way to protect consumers.

All TexBel juices have a clean label (all-natural ingredients and no added sugar or artificial flavors) and an extended shelf-life of up to 150 days. We also

bottle all our juices within hours of harvesting the fruit, so we are truly a farm to fridge brand.

TexBel's newest label, Black Sails Juice Co., was created in 2019, to spice up the juice industry, bringing in unique fruit and spice blends never seen before. All four spiced blends include coconut water, a hint of fruit and a smidge of spice.

TexBel has begun distributing the pure and blended juices within Belize and the U.S. and have been receiving incredible reception to our unique blend of quality Belizean products!



PHOTO CREDIT: TEXBEL FARMS





INDIRA SPICES TASTE OF TRADITION

BY GIOVANNI DOMINGUEZ
CO-OWNER, INDIRA'S SPICES

What started as an after school business idea for Giovanni Dominguez has now transitioned into a fully-fledged business, supplying spices and more to consumers all over Belize. Indira's Spices Packaging and Distribution was formed by Giovanni in 2016 while he was still in high school. He decided to work part-time to gain sufficient start-up capital and bring his idea to fruition and in November 2016 the young entrepreneur began selling his products on his bike in his hometown in Orange Walk District. Balancing work and school were a struggle at first, but he was determined to push through the hurdles, inherent to starting a new business. As his business expanded, he saw the potential to sell his product via wholesale as well as retail, and acquired several small loans as capital for further expansion.

With the unwavering support of his parents, Giovanni was able to improve and develop his line of products as the brand gained more

“

SUCCESS IS NOT DEPENDENT ON THE AMOUNT OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES YOU HAVE ACCESS TO, BUT RATHER, DEPENDENT ON THE AMOUNT OF TIME YOU INVEST IN YOUR VENTURE

BELIZE MARKETING AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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recognition. The idea of diversifying Indira’s Spices product line became obvious leading the brand to develop 3 different products that have provided positive effects for the business’s trajectory. Giovanni is resolute on expanding Indira’s Spices and fervently believes that his vision will materialize with hard work and determination.

Giovanni has experienced great success but not without its fair share of interpersonal struggles, from which he has learned that humility always begets greater opportunities. The lessons learnt from his entrepreneurial pursuit have made him resilient and provided him with the confidence to view challenges as mere invitations to acquire new skills. His mantra “Success is not dependent on the amount of financial resources you have access to, but rather, dependent on the amount of time you invest in your venture” has allowed him to thrive among surrounding dissenting voices.



A MID-POINT ASSESSMENT OF BELIZE'S SDG PROGRESS UNDER HORIZON 2030

BY VICTOR ALEGRIA

DIRECTOR, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT UNIT,
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, FORESTRY, THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

In September 2015, leaders from 193 countries met at a United Nations High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) to adopt the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This Agenda contains 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets to be achieved at the international, regional, and national levels. The Goals focus on critical issues affecting the people, planet, prosperity, peace, and partnerships.

The SDGs mirror some of the most important goals highlighted in Belize's Horizon 2030 (H2030) National Development Framework relating to approaches to:

- i. eliminate poverty and hunger,
- ii. stimulate economic development with equity,
- iii. improve health and well-being of people and the natural environment,
- iv. improve access to education,
- v. promote gender equity,
- vi. resilience to climate change,
- vii. enhance citizen security,
- viii. improve justice and governance systems, and
- ix. form more collaborative partnerships.

The Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy (GSDS) 2016 – 2020 is a series of medium-term national plans that include the implementation of prioritized goals, strategic

actions and monitoring of indicators that measure the progress of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the H2030. The following achievements have been attained through this implementation and monitoring mechanism:

- i. alignment of SDG targets with Necessary Conditions of the National Plan
- ii. inclusion of at least 100 SDG indicators in the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for the national plan
- iii. establishment of a data repository and tracking mechanism for the SDG/GSDS Indicators through a National Statistical System
- iv. completion of a draft Rapid Integrated Assessment to determine Belize's readiness to implement the SDGs,
- v. establishment of a National Reporting Mechanism (Inter-institutional Review Committee (IRC)) as the coordinator to draft national and international reports and
- vi. in the process of finalizing a Gap Assessment report that determines the consistency of policies and strategies with the GSDS/SDGs, proposes recommendations to close the gaps identified, and assesses the alignment of relevant SDG targets and indicators with the GSDS M&E indicator matrix.

Belize has made progress on some of the critical issues of sustainable development.



REVIEW OF BELIZE'S CURRENT ACHIEVEMENTS AND STATUS TOWARDS THE SDGS IN 2020 SINCE THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA WAS LAUNCHED IN 2015

Belize has strengthened its legal and institutional capacities to improve the management of our natural resources and protect our environment, particularly by establishing the National Climate Change Office and developing its National Climate Change Policy, Strategy, and Action Plan (NCCPSAP). Additionally, Belize has legally banned offshore drilling in Belizean waters, started the process to ban single-use plastic bags, Styrofoam products, and plastic food utensils, enacted a new Fisheries Law, and enforced a new Mangrove Regulation. Additionally, there has been endorsement of the National Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan (ICZMP 2015-2020), the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), the National Integrated Water Resources Authority (NIWRA) and the National Land Use Policy and Integrated Framework is currently being updated.

In the social sector, moderate progress has been made in the area of food security resulting in the development of a draft National Agriculture and Food Policy 2015 – 2030 (NAFP) which contains five pillars focused on ensuring sustainable production, competitiveness, market development, access and penetration, rural livelihoods, risk management, and governance accountability.

Base on the findings of the MICS 5 study from the Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB), supported by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), significant progress has also been made in clean water availability and adequate sanitation for good health. The study found that 93% of Belize's total population live in households with improved sanitation facilities.

Additionally, MOH developed the Health Sector Strategic Plan (HSSP) 2014-2024 which focuses on multi-stakeholder participation and developing a health system that is based on primary interventions in the areas of promotion, prevention, curative, and rehabilitative care. One notable finding is that, since 2014, there has been a decrease in newly diagnosed HIV infections in women.

In education, the Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports and Culture has been implementing the Education Sector Strategy (ESS) with funding from the Government of Belize (GOB) and international donors. The Ministry has enforced teaching licensing and certifications, increased the amount of classrooms, amalgamated key schools, and provided capacity building to its

teachers. While there has been greater participation of females in the education sector and an increased number of females graduating from tertiary level educational institutions, this has not yet translated into increased economic opportunities for women. Recognizing the need to improve Belize's GDP and amplify economic growth, a National Trade Policy was developed reflecting an important aspect of SDG 8: to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth. This framework, which was launched in February 2019, guides trade development and trade facilitation processes to better responds to the global shifts in trade and ensuring that Belize remains competitive in international marketplace.



WHAT ROLE CAN THE PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT PLAY IN ATTAINING THE SDGS IN BELIZE?

Public-Private Partnership

Achieving the SDGs requires a “wholesome government approach” where government, private sector, academia, civil society and special interest groups work together to achieve these Goals. The role of the private sector is broad and goes beyond closing the financing gap in achieving the SDGs; it also ensures improved and effective governance. SDG 17 is directly related to partnerships and its importance. The GOB acknowledges the vital role of the private and non-profit sectors in turning the SDGs into practical tools for implementing the national plan and reporting on progress. Therefore, the GOB has been strengthening the coordination between the public and private sectors to fortify synergies. While the public sector is championing efforts to implement, monitor and evaluate the GSDS and by extension the SDGs, the majority of the expected outcomes (necessary conditions) requires that the government ensures an enabling policy and legislative environment for the private sector. This includes policies and interventions in the areas of procurement, trade, taxes, business registration, natural resources, and environmental sustainability.

While it is a popular misconception that the role of private sector investment for SDG implementation is limited to employment generation, paying taxes

and technological adoption and innovation, the role of the private sector has expanded to include:

- i. Acknowledging and understanding the impact of private investment on economic growth, social equity and environmental sustainability;
- ii. Improving the working relationship with government and academia
- iii. Advancing the national monitoring and reporting mechanism with an aim to improve overall accountability and transparency;
- iv. Aligning private investment strategies with the SDGs or adopting sustainability strategies that focus on social and environmental impacts;

To allow the private sector to take on this role, in 2011 the GOB established the Economic Development Council (EDC) to strengthen the collaboration through meaningful dialogue between the public and private sector. Continuous dialogue leads to positive outcomes and facilitates economic development as well as advice and helps develop reforms that improves doing business, enhances the public sector processes and confidence of doing business in Belize.

A perfect example of the private sector’s role in national development is the continuous investment in the tourism sector. The tourism private sector contributes to all 17 SDGs by providing accommodation, transport, tour operator industries, and entertainment. Specifically, private sector activities relate directly to SDGs 12, 13, 1, 4, and 8, on ‘Responsible Consumption and Production’, ‘Climate Action’, ‘No Poverty’, ‘Quality Education’ and ‘Decent Work and Economic Growth’, respectively. More importantly, some tourism companies recognize that aligning business goals with the SDGs can bring about greater efficiencies, cost savings, and competitiveness while contributing to the environmental, social and economic wellbeing of Belize.

The progress, as outlined above, aims to continue to create synergies among economic, social, and environmental policies to produce optimal outcomes. Belize has made tremendous development in responding to the Sustainable Development Goals and expect to make significant more progress by 2030.



WE WORK TO MAKE YOUR DREAMS REACH HIGHER

For more than a hundred years we have been with you, to help you make each of your dreams come true and thus, to build together the country where we all want to live.



Belize Estate Company Limited (BEC), is one of Belize's premier, well recognized, and long-standing organizations that have been in existence for over 145 Years. BEC operates under the mantra, "Keeping Belize on the Move," and is never shy of doing so. Since its inception, BEC has positioned itself in the industrial, transportation and logistics sector, building the economy of Belize with its dedicated Associates and world-renowned brands.

BEC is the official dealer of the automotive brands, Ford, KIA, Renault, International, Cummins and Hyster in Belize. BEC also operates a vehicle rental division as the Belizean franchisee of Enterprise Holdings International (EHI). As the world's largest car rental company, EHI brands include Alamo Rent-A-Car, National Car Rental, and Enterprise. As one of the premier Shipping Agents in Belize, BEC Shipping has been in operation for over 145 years. BEC Shipping provides both ocean and air freight services.



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BY VIRGILIO MURILLO
CEO, KOLBE FOUNDATION

Rehabilitation ENTREPRENEUR

According to the Nelson Mandela Rules – formerly known as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, “The treatment of persons sentenced to imprisonment or a similar measure shall have as its purpose, so far as the length of the sentence permits, to establish in them the will to lead law-abiding and self-supporting lives after their release and to fit them to do so.” It further states that, “The treatment of prisoners should emphasize not their exclusion from the community, but their continuing part in it. Community agencies should therefore be enlisted wherever possible to assist the prison staff in the task of social rehabilitation of the prisoners.”

For the Kolbe Foundation, incarceration is viewed as a deprivation of freedom for which prisoners are sent to prison as punishment and not for punishment. In congruence with the above mandates as per the Nelson Mandela Rules, in February of 2016 the Kolbe Foundation approached Ms. Christine Smith (then Manager of BTEC, BELTRAIDE) and her team to offer entrepreneurial training and business skills to the inmates at the prison. The idea was to equip prisoners with the tools necessary to become employable or develop a business upon their release. To date, 55 inmates (49 males and 6 females) have successfully benefited from this program that entails three courses spanning over three-months per year.

The training imparted theoretical and practical knowledge in areas such as Business Model Development, Funding, Marketing and Sales, Income and Expenses, and Profit and Loss. Specifically, the inmates learnt basic book-keeping and accounting, budgeting, communication, product name-branding, and customer service, which are very important attributes and skills of all successful businesses.

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THE TREATMENT OF
PRISONERS SHOULD
EMPHASIZE NOT THEIR
EXCLUSION FROM THE
COMMUNITY, BUT
THEIR CONTINUING
PART IN IT

The interest in the training demonstrated the inmates’ seriousness in doing better and that attitude was further developed via courses on the characteristics of successful entrepreneurs which include vision, high energy level, need to achieve, self-confidence, tolerance for failure, creativity, tolerance for ambiguity, and internal controls, to mention a few. It is important that inmates were taught to change their mindset through finding forgiveness of their past so that they can pursue their purpose post rehabilitation.

Crime is a community problem and to address it properly requires community solutions. If released inmates cannot get a job the likelihood of them reoffending is high and therefore the program is important to change that equation which then makes life better not only for the inmates but also for their families and communities. The program has inspired many of the inmates to value their potential and to look forward to, in some cases, opening their own businesses, but more importantly being productive citizens in their communities.

Through LEADERSHIP

The program has also given a sense of pride to the staff of BELTRAIDE who believe passionately that, given the right opportunities and under better circumstances, education can help to reduce wrongdoing, provide better options and change people's lives.

The Kolbe Foundation take this opportunity to thank Ms. Christine Smith and the BTEC Team firstly, for recognizing the abilities of inmates regardless of the circumstance that brought them to the prison; and secondly, for their unwavering tremendous support

in teaming up with the Kolbe Foundation to offer our Belizean citizens a chance to be able to lead law-abiding and self-supporting lives upon their liberation from prison.



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Communicating Change through Belongship

Advancing Growth BPO Through Partnership

BY SCOTT NEWMAN
FOUNDER & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER,
TRANSPARENT BPO

It has been ten years since Transparent BPO first planted its corporate flag in Belize. My business partners and I chose the country because of its English-speaking population, customer-centric culture, reliable telecommunications, and proximity to the U.S. and Canada.

During that time, our company has grown from a scrappy startup with 30 employees and a single client to become the largest and fastest-growing business process outsourcer in the country. We now service name-brand clients across a spectrum of industries with customer acquisition, customer service, technical support, and back-office data entry.

An Expanded Vision

Along with that growth comes an expanded vision — from ten years ago, starting a company to benefit its clients and their customers to, now, impacting the economy of the entire country. Through our continued aggressive investment in Belize, we are well on our way of seeing that vision fulfilled.

Currently, we have three contact centers in Belize City — including the newly-constructed Seaside center on the Philip Goldson Highway — and a fourth scheduled to open in Belmopan in 2020. Once completed and fully staffed, the new facility will expand Transparent BPO's total employee census to more than 2,000.

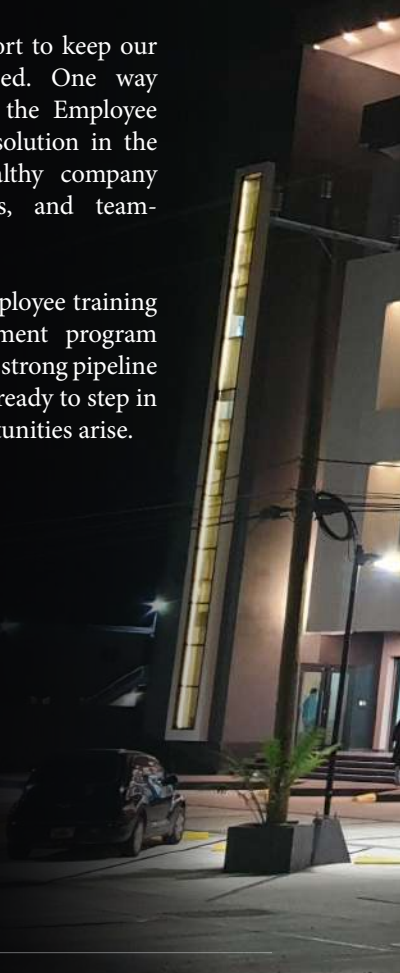
A Place to Call Home

Belize has become more than just a place to conduct business — it is also a place we call home. Many of the staff will testify to the fact they feel as much like family as employees, which explains why it is not unusual to see multiple generations working here.

For that reason, we make every effort to keep our employees motivated and enthused. One way is through the recent creation of the Employee Engagement Team, an innovative solution in the BPO industry, that fosters a healthy company culture with incentives, activities, and team-building strategies.

Another is through our ongoing employee training efforts and a leadership development program called "Rising Stars," which ensures a strong pipeline of emerging leaders are trained and ready to step in as a program expands or new opportunities arise.

PHOTO CREDIT: TRANSPARENT BPO



A Consistent Mission

Although much has changed regarding the company's growth these past ten years, our mission remains the same: to offer our clients a competitive advantage in their industry by providing advanced contact center technology services and skilled human resources.

From our open model and ongoing pursuit for better results to our empowered and engaged agents, we design every interaction with the intent of elevating experiences and strengthening relationships with our clients' brands.

That means hiring the best agents possible, equipping them with world-class training, ongoing support, best-in-class facilities, state-of-the-art technology, and experienced leadership.

A Valued Partnership

We could have accomplished none of this without BELTRAIDE's valued partnership and support. During the decade since our entry into Belize, the organization has helped us in a variety of ways that include:

- » Understanding labor laws and government issues;
- » Promoting our business domestically and internationally;
- » Assisting and guiding us with filing for government incentives;
- » Acting as an advocate when lobbying the government;
- » Consulting for us in-country where necessary.

We cherish the relationship forged over these past ten years and congratulate BELTRAIDE on its 20th anniversary as an innovative leader in growing Belize's economy — and we look forward to many more years of partnering together in pursuit of that common cause.



BELTRAIDE MA

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BelizeINVEST Generation

MARCEL
BTEC

MONIQUE USHER
SBDCBelize

FIONA COLEMAN-ESPEJO
BelizeINVEST Aftercare

NIKKI AUGUSTINE
Marketing & Communications

DR. LEROY A
Executive Direct

MANAGEMENT TEAM

LI RICHARDS



LUIS CHAVEZ
Finance



DEBBIE ALFARO
Projects



ALMENDAREZ
Director



SHAHERA MCKOY
EXPORTBelize



KEILA MAI
Information Technology



BY CHRIS AND JOSEPHINE BEAUMONT
OWNERS, BELIZE CHOCOLATE COMPANY LTD.

BEAN TO BAR

INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING
BEAN TO BAR CHOCOLATE COMPANY WHERE
EVERY BEAN, EVERY BAR IS BORN IN BELIZE!



PHOTO CREDIT: BELIZE CHOCOLATE COMPANY



Chris and Josephine Beaumont met in Barbados while learning to be sailing and windsurfing instructors. In 1998, both wanting a simpler life ventured to Belize to set up the first windsurfing and sailing school.

Being a chocoholic, Chris was always looking for chocolate that was hard to find in Belize at that time and thus he relied on his parents who lived abroad to get chocolate for him. However, after attending the 1st ever Cacao Festival in southern Belize, the couple bought a sack of cacao from a local farmer and was able to introduce their signature Kakaw brand of 70% dark chocolate in a Wine Shop in San Pedro in December, 2017. After Chris completed a Professional Chocolatier Program with Ecole Chocolat in Vancouver, they opened Belize's first chocolate boutique: Belize Chocolate Company (BCC) in December, 2012.

BCC's continuous investment in finances, time, and efforts have developed a variety of product lines, using locally sourced ingredients such as banana, Belikin sorrel stout, citrus blossom honey, coconut, pineapple, and cashews. Currently, BCC employs 18 Belizeans, majority of who are females, Likewise, they assist local farmers who plant organic and fair-trade cacao in southern Belize and to procure drying and fermentation equipment to produce high quality chocolate bars and value-added chocolate products. BCC operates two chocolate

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A UNIQUE
OPPORTUNITY TO
INTRODUCE THE
RICH CULTURAL
HISTORY OF THE
MAYA CIVILIZATION



PHOTO CREDIT: BELIZE CHOCOLATE COMPANY

boutiques on the neighboring islands of San Pedro and Caye Caulker while it also engages in online sales and distributes wholesale to high end resorts throughout Belize.

Belize Chocolate Company is on a growth trajectory and a path of continuous improvement; thus, they work closely with developing agencies to improve operations and the quality of their products and services. EXPORTBelize, a unit of the Belize Trade and Investment Development Service (BELTRAIDE) is a key partner on this journey by offering training and technical assistance regarding Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) regulations, intellectual property, marketing, and key inputs on factory design, layout, and processes. In 2018, this unit was instrumental in providing tools that allowed BCC to receive a grant under the Direct Assistance Grant Scheme (DAGS) through Caribbean Export Development Agency (CEDA). This funding supported the acquisition of a much-needed cacao roaster that has substantially improved the consistency, quality, and productivity in business operations. Through SBDCBelize, BCC registered for the Micro, Small and Medium

Sized Enterprise (MSME) Enhancement Program (MEP) which has enabled the company to raise its packaging standards by substantially saving on import duties.

BCC, therefore, thanks BELTRAIDE and its employees for contributing towards the company's success. BCC also thanks all their customers for their continued support to consolidate their factory premises and to build a single stand-alone wind and solar powered facility to expand production capacity and increase export sales.

Due to the support and hard work of their staff and partners, BCC was able to win the 2018 Belize Tourism Board (BTB) Company's Hospitality Award for its contribution to the growth of the cacao and chocolate industry. BCC was also awarded Silver for their Milk Chocolate Bar at the International Chocolate Awards for the 2018 Americas Competition where 800 products competed from approximately 130 chocolate companies. BCC is thrilled to have received this Award that brought visibility to its business and placed Belize on the chocolate map!



PHOTO CREDIT: COPAL TREE DISTILLERY LTD.



BY SHIRLEYMAE PARHAM
ASSISTANT MANAGER, COPAL TREE DISTILLERY LTD.

TASTE OF SUCCESS

An Award Winning *Belizean Rum*

When marine conservationist Todd Robinson stood under the canopy of untouched and verdant rainforest in southern Belize more than fifteen years ago he knew one thing – this is where he wanted to be.

The melange of thick jungles, crystal blue sea, and rich culture in the heart of Toledo moved him to purchase property that overlooks the rainforest. Robinson then partnered with Toledo Institute for

Development and Environment (TIDE) to preserve more than forty-five thousand acres of pristine land. That conservation work would lead him to his next projects, including an eco-friendly property that blends luxury and sustainability.

In 2005, Robinson established the Copal Tree Lodge on a farm surrounded by twelve thousand acres of natural reserve. With sustainability at the forefront of its design and operations, Robinson teamed up with sustainable food specialist Anya Fernald to create an agri-tourism identity for the lodge.

Steeped in environmentally friendly practices, the Copal Lodge began to produce organic crops. Today, cocoa, coffee, sugar cane and other sustainably grown crops make up more than seventy percent of the food served at the Lodge.

In 2014, they developed their latest project: Copal Tree Distillery, formerly known as Noble Spirit Belize Land Ltd. Although the distillery project has gone through several design iterations, this project has been in process since 2011. Copal Tree Distillery is Belize's first organically made rum, producing premium and ultra-premium rum and corn whiskey from one hundred percent organic sugar cane and corn that are grown on fertile lands in southern Belize.

The distillery currently produces up to three thousand litres per day. It has a column still and an alembic pot still and aims to become one hundred percent self-sustainable and carbon neutral. All waste is recycled and put back into the fields as fertilizer or as fuel to power the distillery. At this time, Copal Tree Distillery produces a White and a Barrel Rested Rum.

Due to the growing demand in the US Market, Copal Tree Distillery participated in their first ever New York International Spirits Competition in

2019. Copalli White Rum won 'White Rum of the Year' and also received a Gold Medal. Copal Tree Distillery's vision and sustainable practices beat out the competitors to earn them the title of 'Distillery of the Year'.

Shirleymae Parham, Assistant Manager of Copal Tree Distillery says, "The Lodge is proud that Copalli Rum has been so well received as it represents a tribute to its Belizean workforce and agriculture."

The Copalli Rum expansion into the United States market continues to be rolled out. The Rum is increasing its marketing presence in New York, Florida, Nevada and Massachusetts, as well as Europe and Asia.

Copal Tree's relationship with the EXPORTBelize team of BELTRAIDE has allowed their premium organic single estate rums and sustainability model to be promoted both locally and internationally. EXPORTBelize, has promoted Copalli Rum at tradeshows in the Caribbean, Asia and will likely be promoted at EXPO Dubai next year allowing our distinct product that pays homage to mother earth to reach a larger market. Copal Tree Distillery's mission is to become a worldwide brand within the next ten years.

PHOTO CREDIT: COPAL TREE DISTILLERY LTD.



VALUING SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGH REGIONALISM



Developing countries are inserting themselves into regional blocks to confront challenges and opportunities that arise from globalization. Regional alliance provides the opportunity to also increase economic and political influence in the international sphere for many countries. For Belize, Regionalism offers the opportunity to tap into various support networks including international organizations willing to assist with socio-economic development actions. These partnerships have resulted in opportunities for countries to reach their full economic potential.

Recognizing the importance of regional collaboration, Belize sits as a member of both the Caribbean region through the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Central American region through the Central America Integration System (SICA). BELTRAIDE, as a leading economic development institution

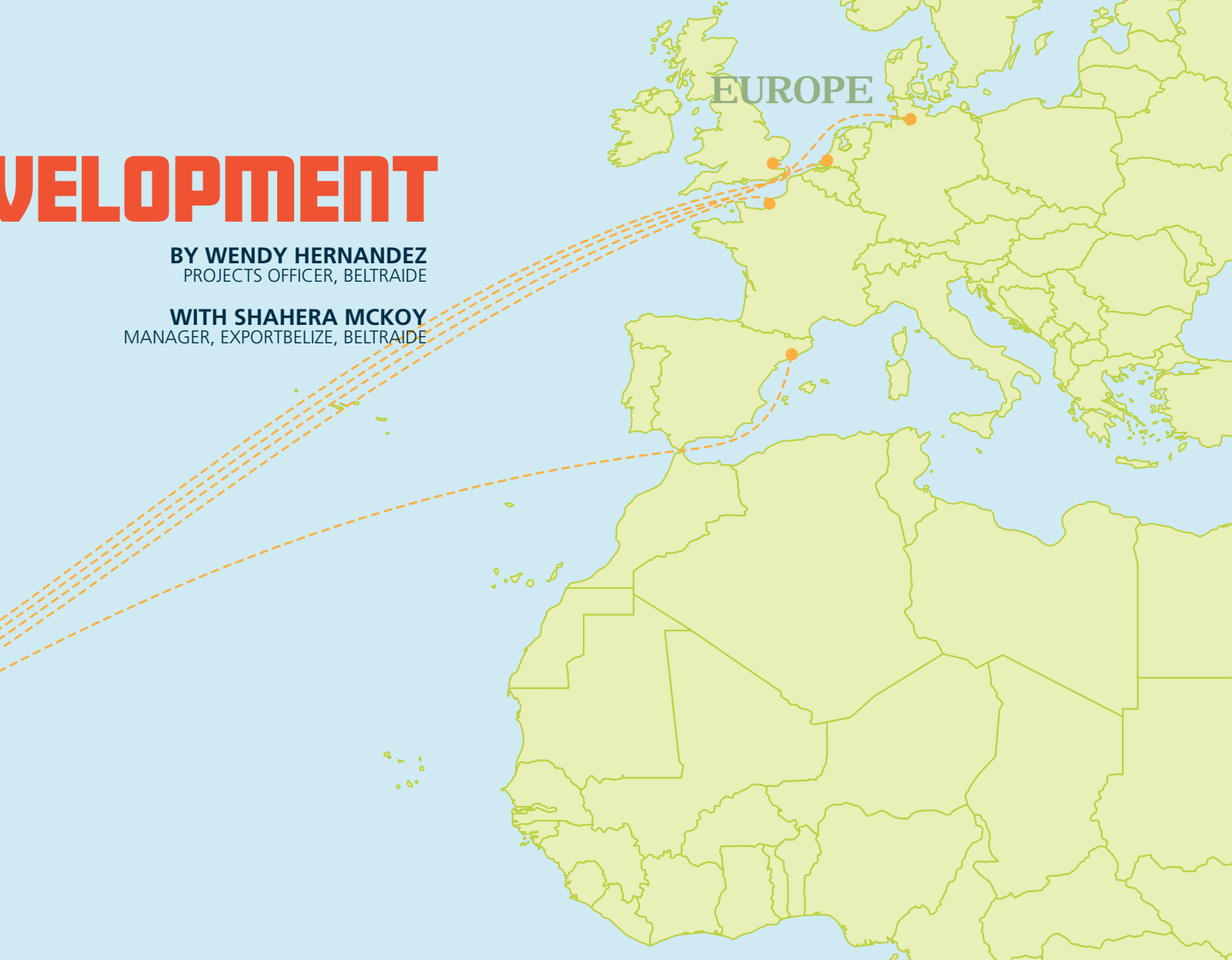
within Belize, has utilized this strategic membership in both the CARICOM and SICA to attain funding for institutional strengthening, capacity building for Micro, Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (MSMEs) and to facilitate market access for Belizean products and services. All of these interventions have fostered Belize's socio-economic growth and development.

Within the Central American region, BELTRAIDE has also maintained a strong and productive partnership with the Regional Center for the Promotion of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (CENPROMYPE) and has made significant advances to promote entrepreneurship and small business development in Belize. BELTRAIDE's Executive Director, Dr. Leroy Almendarez, is a member of the Board of Directors that promotes the monitoring and implementation of the Regional Agenda for MSMEs. The main pillars are to promote entrepreneurship,

DEVELOPMENT

BY WENDY HERNANDEZ
PROJECTS OFFICER, BELTRAIDE

WITH SHAHERA MCKOY
MANAGER, EXPORTBELIZE, BELTRAIDE



inclusive financing and development of public-private-academic alliances, strengthen productive articulation, and manage MSME knowledge and statistics with the aim to create social cohesion and sustainable economic development, and to provide equal opportunities for women and men within the region.

This regional collaboration has also resulted in one noteworthy project, the Regional EMPRENDE Project, which was funded by the Government of Taiwan through CENPROMYPE. EMPRENDE provided 36 business owners, 50% of which were women owned, with capacity building and seed capital grants to validate, start or expand their business idea. Many of the recipients still have thriving businesses today including TAS Belize, Happy Maids Cleaning Service, and Amarabi Seasoning.

Similarly, during 2019-2020 the Female Entrepreneurship Program empowered 13 women entrepreneurs through business development capacity building, and also provided 8 women with seed capital grants valued between USD \$2,400 to \$3,000 to further enhance their businesses. This support, technical and monetary, has also been of valuable use to confront challenges that have arisen due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

BELTRAIDE has also maintained strong partnerships with various Caribbean institutions to develop governance, capacity building, and sustainability for enterprise growth in the private sector. Since 2012, the institution has been implementing the project entitled “Establishment of Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) in CARICOM Member States”, with funding from the government of the United States of America (USA) through its

Permanent Mission to the Organization of American States (OAS). This project has provided technical assistance through the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) in the creation of the SBDC in Belize (SBDCBelize), a unit of BELTRAIDE that provides needs-based services to MSMEs with the aim of facilitating their competitiveness and export readiness.

The partnership with the Caribbean Export Development Agency (CEDA) has afforded Belize numerous capacity building programs, financing schemes and opportunities to promote the country's goods and services in regional and international markets. Several companies in Belize have benefited from the Direct Assistance Grants Scheme (DAGS) through CEDA with funding from the European Union. DAGS funding has improved the productivity and competitiveness of Belizean beneficiary firms in the agro-processing, light manufacturing and tourism sector.

BELTRAIDE is a key policy advocate and has supported implementation of the National MSME Policy with funding from the CARICOM Development Fund (CDF) and the National Export Strategy with funding from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) CARTFUND. Both strategies were endorsed as national strategies and were thereafter used as key complement to the Growth and Sustainable Develop Strategy (GSDS) 2016-2019. BELTRAIDE continues on this upward trajectory and is currently supporting the development of the country's first National Investment Policy and Strategy (NIPS) which seeks to establish a national framework that will guide both foreign and domestic investments. Funding for this project is \$USD300,000 from the (CDF).

The organization is working tirelessly to diversify its export basket from traditional agriculture and one way that they have started that is through the "Belize Seaweed Mariculture Project". This project is being implemented in

partnership with Compete Caribbean Partnership funded by the Inter-American Bank (IDB), the United Kingdom Department of International Development (DFID), and the Caribbean International Development Agency is one initiative that supports the country's diversification efforts. The goal of the project is to support traditional fishers to diversify and supplement their livelihood through sustainable farmed seaweed. This quality product can be marketed to global niche markets and Belize's growing tourism market.

These projects are implemented based on common, strategic development objectives that are regionally integrating the regions' population and economies. These projects, along with regional alliances in the Caribbean and Central America, have positioned the country as a key player within the international relations arena. Belize's constant interaction with both regions only reinforces its influence within each respective region and enhances its role as a bridge between SICA and CARICOM. The country is poised to solidify this role in 2020 and beyond.

BELTRAIDE's mandate has allowed the organization to drive economic impact across various sectors and socioeconomic stratification. Through its projects, work programs and activities, the organization has been able to tackle issues relating to poverty, gender equity, governance, and sustainability amongst others. Through training, technical assistance and other knowledge sharing initiatives, BELTRAIDE has been able to support private sector development across the country.

All our regional partnerships and alliances have brought value to our country on the national and regional level allowing us to build a new culture of cooperation and success. Our regional relations have certainly allowed us to keep "making business happen" even as the world around us changes.



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Western Dairies

PROUDLY BELIZEAN!

BY ARMANDO ESTRADA
GENERAL MANAGER, WESTERN DAIRIES



PHOTO CREDIT: TOMAS GONGORA

What started as a small factory in 1967 has now transformed into a 6-branch, 200-employee company that prides itself on being uniquely Belizean through and through. Headquartered in the heart of Spanish Lookout, Western Dairies continues to make tummies smile with their wide product line of cheeses, milk, juices, water and assortment of flavored ice creams. They continue to reinvent themselves through their products especially their ice cream which now includes some new exciting flavors including natural soursop, natural black cherry, nutmeg ice cream with some additional flavors in product development stages. The company can boast with its 24 unique flavored ice cream, 11 chillers drink and 7 chillers milk drink,

9 unique types of cheese and recently added frozen pizza and ice cream cakes to delight our palettes.

What has helped the company over the years is their aggressive international market penetration approach. They have proactively participated in trade shows in Belize and around the world in order to meet potential distributors. Additionally, the company remains up to standards by meeting food safety standards required for export, through an investment of over BZD \$300,000.00 over a 3-year period in order to attain the HACCP certification. This required significant investment in capital and human resources in order to build the capacity of their employees to comply with this international food safety certification.



PHOTO CREDIT: TOMAS GONGORA

“
WE ARE
THANKFUL FOR
EXPORTBELIZE’S
SUPPORT AND
GUIDANCE
WHENEVER WE
NEED IT.



PHOTO CREDIT: TOMAS GONGORA

Their commitment to attain HACCP was not fruitless as in 2017 Western Dairies successfully exported ice cream into the Grenada market resulting in them acquiring a facility and warehouse in that country by 2019. In 2019, a total of 7 containers of ice cream was shipped to Grenada which also included milk ideals and frozen pizza. This branch currently employs two Belizean employees (an Accountant and a Sales Representative), as well a local employee. With a small but mighty staff, they aggressively promote their Belizean products which is a proud achievement for Western Dairies and by extension, the larger Spanish Lookout Community to see the company’s goals realized and seeing Belizean ice cream in a new and foreign market. This success

has opened the door for the WD team to explore potential buyer opportunities with other CARICOM and regional sister nations.

With support from BELTRAIDE, Western Dairies had re-started the implementation of the food safety system through a grant funding program. Staff has participated in trainings and workshops and knowledge sharing sessions to build their capacity in areas such as grant application, food safety, market intelligence and Export to CARICOM roundtable. Their willingness to learn is encouraging and shows their continued interest to grow. They have participated in local and international shows such as EntreCON

and LAC Flavors – Argentina. EXPORTBelize continues to promote WD’s at these international events and back at home, have been able to secure a partnership with seaweed producers in southern Belize. This partnership allows them to explore seaweed, as an input for a new flavor of ice cream that will be debuted soon to the Belizean market!

Armando Estrada is appreciative of the work EXPORTBelize and stated “We are thankful for EXPORTBelize’s support and guidance whenever we need it. The prompt responses and feedback is appreciated. From the support in our HACCP implementation, trainings and guidance with accessing CARICOM working permits, we are thankful.”



Tourism in the aftermath of COVID-19

Reflections from Maya Guide Adventures & Jungle Lodge

BY FRANCISCO CUCUL
CO-OWNER, MAYA GUIDE JUNGLE ADVENTURE LODGE

Maya Guide Adventures & Jungle Lodge is one of the only adventure lodges in Belize that has but what started this family operated business was a history that started when owner Marcus Canul a young boy living with his Ketchi Maya family in rural Toledo District. After escaping the barbarous Guatemalan civil war Marcus and his family escaped to Belize where he started to gain insights into subsistence farming and wilderness therapy. He also became exposed to the British soldiers who were stationed in Belize and got a glimpse of what tourism would look like by interacting with gutsy backpackers who ventured to Belize.

Looking for chances to uplift himself, Marcos ventured away from home and settled in an emerging community known as Armenia on the outskirts of Belmopan. At age 19, Marcos landed his first job as a Jungle Survival Guide for the British Army and worked along with the Gurkha Regiments and the Special Air Service for years to come. Eventually, starting a family life was inevitable and Marcos could not continue the thrilling life of helicopter drops and long jungle treks through the remoteness of Belize. Following his passion for the Maya Mountains and the jungle, Marcos settled for a job close to home and started working as a Tour Guide for Ian Anderson's Caves Branch Jungle Adventure Lodge in 1998.

After leading and designing other very successful tours, Marcos ventured to develop Maya Guide Adventures & Jungle Lodge at Mile 42 Hummingbird Highway Ringtail Village, Belmopan, Belize. Marcos and his son Francis manage the day to day operations of Maya Guide Adventures & Jungle Lodge where they focus on providing moderate to extreme adventures from cave tubing, zip lining to jungle survival training. Marcos's experiences and qualifications have also allowed him to create the SAFE Team, a small and elite group of licensed high adventure Tour Guides who specialize in rescue and remote wilderness medicine.

Today, Maya Guide Adventures & Jungle Lodge, like many other small businesses in Belize and around the world, has not fallen immune to the novel Coronavirus that has disrupted normalcy and reshaped societies, markets, and tourism. With a limited number of flights allowed into Belize and strict regulations, the business has come to a stand still seeing only a trickle of people now seeking the services of the lodge. This effects have trickled over to the employees requiring Marco to try to reinvent new ideas to keep the business open,

However, the company remains resilient in its restoration effort to fully reenter the market at its optimal capacity in tandem with the new normal. Despite the health and economic devastation, many of these changes will be coronavirus's legacy of disruptive innovation as Maya Guide Adventures & Jungle Lodge ventures off into farming and promoting its existing tour operator services. Thus, their promotional strategy will integrate advertising events, personal selling, public relations, direct marketing and the Internet. Their marketing strategy will be online and offline through a market infiltration methodology that will focus on ensuring that customers are aware of their existence and their services are regarded in the travel industry.

Marco credits the success of his business to the strong that he has built with his employees and recognizes that that is the foundation of how they do business and how they will remain in business during the age of COVID-19.



PHOTO CREDIT: REBECA GUERRERO

TRAINING *"TO PREPARE FOR"*

BY OMAR LONGSWORTH
PRINCIPAL, INDEPENDENCE HIGH SCHOOL



Wholesome education in an intellectually stimulating and supportive environment is not exclusive to private institutions.

Independence High School, a government co-educational institution, is redefining what it means to get a secondary education at a public school. The focus on the mental, spiritual and physical development of the students, as well as stakeholder and community collaboration, is helping students to become self-sufficient learners and productive citizens.

The school's motto, 'To Prepare for Life', is reflected in every aspect of the students' educational journey.

I.H.S. places a strong emphasis on educational programs that converge with modern business

practices and the demands of post-secondary partners to restructure the high school experience. This approach doesn't only encourage innovation in today's economy, but it also meets the learning needs and interests of its multicultural student population.

I.H.S. is located in Independence village in Stann Creek and surrounded by the booming tourism industry and many major agricultural industries.

To remain relevant as the premier secondary institution in mid-south Belize, I.H.S. offers dynamic, tailored programs to prepare students for employment by local industries or to create their enterprise.

Teaching staff must employ innovative approaches and strategies that cross-cut into these sectors to equip students with critical skills, knowledge, and collaboration opportunities to meet the

demands of the growing tourism and agriculture sectors. As a result, all educators must undergo continuous professional development, most offered by the Ministry of Education. They are also required to foster and maintain external partnerships that help them to accomplish their mission.

Today, the Belize Training and Employment Centre (BTEC) is the Independence High School's primary skills-based training partner. BTEC prepares students to become professionals in the workplace, enables them to gain meaningful employment, and encourages them to pursue opportunities for a productive life.

This training approach entails planning, implementing, and analysing skills gained through knowledge-based learning methods. Students are motivated to think logically, analyse concepts, and apply their insights. The idea behind this innovative and most in-demand learning method is to influence

learners to become independent thinkers and to prepare them for the challenges of the future.

The work and impact of the I.H.S. extend to all twenty surrounding communities, so programs are offered based on individual needs and demands of the employment agencies within the region.

These programs are designed to develop 'soft skills' and provide hands-on training to participants. Over the years, training has been offered in the following

areas: Gardening, AC Maintenance and Repairs, Front Desk Operation, Hospitality, Bartending, Waitering, and Food Preparation.

The end goal of both organisations is to see the trainees succeed, which will result in a working population that will drive the productivity of our economy. Ultimately, employment and entrepreneurship will improve the standard of living for Belizeans and lead to broad, sustainable socio-economic benefits for Belize.



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Dis Da Fi We Chikin

BY RAYMOND BARKMAN

GENERAL MANAGER, QUALITY POULTRY PRODUCTS LTD



PHOTO CREDIT: QUALITY POULTRY PRODUCTS LTD

Quality Poultry Products (QPP) has been a part of Belizean households, restaurants, and resorts since they opened their doors over 40 years ago. QPP has continuously worked to improve the quality and variety of poultry products at the same time satisfying and improving their relationship with its customers. There is no doubt that they have grown progressively over the years expanding to wholesale and retail outlets countrywide.

In keeping with quality control measures and food safety standards QPP has invested in a food processing facility which has led to its first meat processing plant being HACCP certified. Receiving this internationally recognized food safety standard is a testament to their commitment to quality, consumer safety and ensuring a more “natural” product for their consumers.

Additionally, QPP is doing its part to reducing carbon footprint by making significant efforts to lowering electricity costs by going green with their recent solar project. In December 2019, the company successfully installed 960 – 360 KW solar panels with 4 inverters on their processing facility and administration building in Spanish Lookout. As a result, it is currently successfully producing 1,000 kw per day, a decision that has provided and will continue to provide cost savings, improve operational productivity and efficiency and advance their corporate social responsibility by proactively preserving Belize’s environmental resources.

QPP credits some of its milestones to the EXPORTBelize unit of BELTRAIDE, who, since 2014, has provided numerous training, technical assistance, and advising in areas related to food safety, intellectual property, internationalization, market intelligence, amongst others. EXPORTBelize played a key role in advising and providing market research to acquire a consultant to develop a food safety manual and system aligned with the company’s requirements. Additionally, the unit constantly promotes QPP products at numerous trade shows further extending their reach to the Caribbean and beyond.

General Manager Raymond Barkman stated “We at Quality Poultry Products greatly appreciate everything BELTRAIDE has done for us in supporting our initiatives and in assisting with identifying our HACCP consultant to support with the daily queries and promotional efforts. We appreciate the hard work and they do for us”.



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The country offers many advantages to both businesses and individuals looking to form a company for either personal or commercial use.

The following benefits allow Belize to continue being the best in Central America for company formations opportunities as well as Ship Registration and Fishing Licenses services as a competent Ship Registry for International Trade and High Seas Fishing.

1. **Company Formation**

- LLCs, Trust & Foundation
- Competitive registry fees
- Untarnished reputation
- Incorporation within 24hours
- Online name check & reservations

2. **Ship Registration**

- Reputation of excellence and efficiency
- Functional operational office in Europe
- Accredited ISO 9001:2008 certification services
- Established legal system and mortgage recording services
- Network of Deputy Registrars worldwide

3. **Commercial Fishing Opportunities**

- High Seas Fishing Licenses and Authorization
- Preferential access to EU Market
- An active member or several FRMOs
- A global leader in high seas fisheries management



ifsc.gov.bz



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The Timely *Blue Zen*



PHOTO CREDIT: NAPE BLU ZEN LTD

Thomas Edison said, “Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.”

I was not looking for more work. On the contrary, I was looking for the right location to build a retirement home where I would be able to stretch out, enjoy the cool breeze with a cold beverage in hand and my lovely wife by my side. I found that place in an isolated area of Caye Caulker. It was the right time since property cost was still reasonable for seafront real-estate that is nestled on emerald waters and close enough to the barrier reef to hear the waves roar.

I have always believed in the mantra that says that opportunity is being in the right place at the right time and recognizing it. I was in the right place at

the right time when my opportunity came around. I didn't only recognize it, but I also seized it! My opportunity was borne out of a need to share my common area cost since a home on a 1.7-acre parcel of land was just too much maintenance for one person whose goal was retirement.

Thus, I built a few houses on the site and sold them to like-minded neighbours willing to share the maintenance expenses. Ha! Little did I know that this was the start of another business venture and more work. Before long, a retirement home had morphed into a small community that now required connecting electricity and potable water to attract buyers.

This required teamwork and the utility companies became an essential part of the team. The utility companies had come through by the time the architect plans were approved and the environmental

Opportunity

BY DOUGLAS SINGH
DEVELOPER, NAPE BLU ZEN LTD.



clearance and all other permits secured. The site now had electricity and water, so now the real fun could begin. But one more partner was needed; a partner that could offer incentives and ease the financial burden. After all, my retirement investment could only go so far. And then I found Beltraide.

BELTRAIDE is a “private sector like” arm of the government that promotes local and foreign investments in Belize. BELTRAIDE's young executives, who were eager to help, explained what the program offered and how my project could benefit from a development concession. They provided key details of what was needed and shortly after the project was approved. BELTRAIDE cared and that mattered. The process that ensued was simple and their response was always efficient. Then the fun started - work that was supposed to be retirement.

Fast forward to 2020, three years later, twenty-five residences have been completed with a restaurant, bar and pool - and best of all - they sold out! The vision was real, the opportunity ripe, and Blu Zen was born. I began phase two after I acquired the adjacent nine-acre property with one thousand three hundred feet of beach.

Armed with a new concession through Beltraide, Blu Zen is expanding by investing thirty-six million dollars. This expansion will triple its size and position Blue Zen to become one of the foremost condominium-living and rental properties in Belize equipped with three pools, gym, spa, restaurants, and bars. And to complement the property, a fifty-four room hotel is already in design and construction is tentatively set to start in 2022.

I guess being “actively” retired may not be a bad thing after all.

RISING STARS WOMEN'S GROUP:

Sewing a Legacy

BY KRISTA BARROW
JOB PLACEMENT OFFICER, WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT





About 30 minutes west of the Corozal District and just a few miles away from the Belize-Mexico Border sits San Victor Village, a quiet little community that is rich in culture and talent. But what makes this place so special is a group of nine female entrepreneurs who were drawn together by their passion for sewing and a legacy that was passed down for generations.

Rising Stars Women's Group officially registered themselves in 2016 after receiving seed capital funding from BELTRAIDE through the EMPRENDE Program. This continuous support via business advisory services offered by BELTRAIDE's SBDCBelize Unit allowed them to turn their hobby into an income generator. For the women in the group, the work that they do serves not only to generate income but also to empower themselves, their families, and the broader community through sewing. More importantly the group provide moral support to each other providing a nexus between entrepreneurship and family responsibility that can respond to some of the hard asks from our society.

Most recently, the group participated in a series of training in software and computer hardware with the Women's Department that has allowed them to integrate logos into their sewing production. This has been instrumental in diversifying their business and expanding their customer-base which now includes several schools in the Northern region of the country as well as getting a special contract with the Ministry of Human Development. The group actively participates in exhibition shows that have allowed them to tap into international markets, specifically with customers based in Miami, where some of their products are now being marketed.

The San Victor Rising Stars Women's Group continuously engages in humanitarian activities by providing support to the elderly in the community, providing school bags for the Ministry's public educational assistance program and taking pride in teaching and empowering women to be active players in the community. The women strongly subscribe to empowering women and children in order to change the world.

BELIZE



INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

BY THELMA MONTERO
INVESTMENT ASSOCIATE,
BELIZEINVEST GENERATION, BELTRAIDE

As the world faces a severe economic downturn due to the Covid-19 pandemic, shovel ready projects tailored to attract international capital investments are critical in assisting to generate much needed foreign exchange, investment, and employment. While the Government of Belize has successfully contained the spread of Covid-19, the economic contractions of the nation's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has been significant due to the downturn particularly in the Tourism Sector. The severely impacted Tourism Sector contributes to over 40% of Belize's GDP and provides an estimated 30,000 jobs.

In an effort to mitigate the impacts of Covid-19, the Belize Investment Portfolio Campaign launched in November 2016, by BELTRAIDE through its technical unit BelizeINVEST, has become an important platform in attracting investments to the country. The Belize Investment Portfolio is designed specifically to support private sector investment projects, seeking financing and / or investment partners via investment promotion efforts and targeted matchmaking of "shovel ready" business opportunities to both local and foreign investors.

Since the launch of the Belize Investment Portfolio, 16 investment projects have been submitted, the current pipeline of Investment Projects is valued at an estimated USD \$52 million. In 2019 alone, the featured investment projects have been showcased

and promoted by the BELTRAIDE team at various International Trade and Investment Events held in over 12 countries and in major cities across the USA. The BELTRAIDE team has also hosted several inbound trade and investment missions with various investors to further explore the potential opportunities featured within the Belize Investment Portfolio.

"Thanks to the continued promotional efforts of the BelizeINVEST team under BELTRAIDE, we were able to host several investors at the Juniper Building Investment Project and we are happy to say we closed a deal with a Business Processing Outsourcing provider. We thank BELTRAIDE for the support in making this case possible and for featuring our Project in the Belize Investment Portfolio" – Digi Belize

Investment Projects within the Belize Investment Portfolio are aligned with the identified national priority investment sectors of:

- Tourism and Leisure
- Agribusiness & Agro-processing
- Fisheries & Aquaculture
- Offshore Outsourcing
- Sustainable Energy
- Light Manufacturing & Logistics

Project Name: Mariposa Resort

Sitting on 2 acres of property, Mariposa Resort is situated in Southern Belize on the Placencia Peninsula which features over twelve miles of untrammled golden beaches that look out onto scores of enchanting Cayes, the western hemisphere's largest Barrier Reef and further beyond lies pristine atolls. It's an ideal base for amazing diving and snorkeling – including famous whale sharks, as well as world class fly fishing and trolling. At just under two (2) acres, the highest and best use of the property is for a high density, well-marketed & positioned boutique resort or exclusive, high-quality commercial development. Further development of the property through beach-side villas and the addition of more tree houses would boost earnings, net income and by extension stimulate an increased return on investment (ROI).

Capital Investment Required: USD \$720,000

Mode of Investment: Sale of Venture



Project Name: Finca Chocolat

Finca Chocolat was conceptualized in August of 2015 and by December of that year the corporation had been formed, equity funding raised, land acquired, supplies ordered, workers hired, seeds sourced and preparations for the nursery were underway. Starting in 2016 Finca Chocolat has germinated 50,000 trees annually and currently has over 300 acres in cultivation. In the next few years Finca Chocolat will increase the total area planted to approximately 450 acres of Trinitario cacao.

Distinct from all other Belizean producers of cacao, Finca Chocolat is a single source origin growing fine flavor cacao (Trinitario variety) at scale. At 515 acres Finca Chocolat is orders of magnitudes larger than other Belizean cacao farms and controls its supply chain from germination through fermentation to exportation. This size allows Finca Chocolat to minimize unit cost through economies of scale while controlling the entire value chain, ensuring the cacao is traceable, consistent and of exceptional quality.

Capital Investment Required: USD \$625,000

Mode of Investment: Minority Shareholder Positions



Project Name: Cardelli Farms Limited

Cardelli Farms Ltd. is a shrimp farm located outside of Independence Village in the Stann Creek District of Belize. The farm is wholly owned by Linda Cardelli Thornton, a business woman who has lived and worked in Belize since 1984. Cardelli Farms Ltd. operates under the special incentive program known as the Designated Processing Areas (DPA) status, which allows duty free inputs and tax-free status for up to 10 years. The farm was built in 2006 with four-25 acre ponds and has been operated with a low density, no-water exchange culture to produce 16-20 and 21-25 size shrimp for the local and export market. It was later expanded to six-25 acre ponds and ran profitably with an ROI of 65% before principal and interest payments.

Capital Investment Required: USD \$3,000,000

Mode of Investment: Joint Venture Partnership



Project Name: Integrated Agro Forest of Belize Cabins

Integrated Agro Forest of Belize cabins located in Carmelita Village, Orange Walk District, Belize. The cabins are less than an hour's drive from the Philip Goldson International Airport. The project consists of the construction of 20 cabins, a processing building for wine and other products, a natural Olympic size pond, and other amenities to host sporting events and summer camps.

Capital Investment Required: USD \$500,000

Mode of Investment: Joint Venture Partnership



Project Name: Pickwick Building

The Pickwick Building is centrally located and is easily accessible via all transportation facilities available in Belize City. It is in short proximity to colleges and high schools. This building is an ideal turnkey built to specifically meet the needs of contact centers seeking to readily establish in Belize. This space of the building is twenty thousand five hundred and fifty-three (20,553) square feet.

It is equipped with all the basic requirements of a contact center, such as backup generators, fiber connection, dropped down acoustic ceilings, 24/7 security among other amenities.

Mode of Investment: Concessionary Lease



For more Investment Projects, kindly visit:
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