

## **Need a Better Toolset for Evaluating the Private Sector? Click Here.**

Compete Caribbean's compendium of knowledge products is a research tool for academics and policy makers alike. It provides the most recent information on the region's evolving private sector so that we can target our program and projects to strategically meet the most pressing needs impeding a thriving private sector led growth strategy. Now you have access to this resource as well. Here we provide a short tour of our virtual library (click [here](#) Studies and Report Page) which, we hope, will help to guide you on how to use the research tools we have available – tools which we have found very useful as input into our program's design.

**Regional and National:** A key foundational tool in our library are the private sector assessment reports (PSARs), the most recent set of fourteen countries was edited by the Economist Intelligence Unit to update the region's current macroeconomic context. Each report follows the same methodology (found [here](#)) to unearthing a profile of the private sector, its main challenges, its potentials and emerging economic sectors, and the policy implications derived thereof. Here in this section of the virtual library you will also find the Overview report, authored by the EIU, to be a very useful report in understanding the main bottlenecks to the private sector at the regional level. The call for private and public sector partnership is strong along with the push for regional integration to combat the diseconomies of scale plaguing the small developing states.

**Thematic:** The second more important categorical item you will come across, are our individual knowledge products that focus on big ticket thematic areas important to the region (see [here](#)). These reports explore how to improve competitiveness in the Caribbean Tourism sector through ICT-based innovations, an understanding of the taxonomy and policies supporting cluster development in the Caribbean, the role of the Caribbean diaspora in enhancing economic diversification and deepening global competitiveness, the role of the human imagination in spurring creativity and innovation, value chain analyses of the ecotourism industry, strengthening sustainable agriculture, using productive development policies for growth, and the push for implementing renewable energy strategies to address our region's energy issues.

**Detailed, Firm Level:** Finally, at the detailed level, one would appreciate our firm level data sets which, in a virtuous cycle, feed back into the thematic and regional/national research work (found [here](#)). This dataset is rich with potential that we are tapping into through our recruiting of academics to crunch the numbers and spew out new insights on how various factors affect the private sector's capacity to innovate, be productive, and compete. The first dataset covering 14 Caribbean countries was released in 2010 using the enterprise survey methodology to produce internationally comparable and comprehensive data. In 2014, a new round of the dataset was commissioned for 13 countries and released through Compete Caribbean. We have high expectations that the two year panel dataset will reveal some interesting and impactful knowledge about where our private sectors firms are today compared to 2010.

But there is yet much more that remains to be discovered and we at Compete Caribbean continue to update our diagnostics and make them readily available to you so that we can all benefit from an increased understanding about the private sector.

The Private Sector Assessment Reports | [Click here](#) to find out how your country's private sector is performing!