ECLAC POSTER AND ESSAY COMPETITIONS to celebrate the

International Year of Small Island Developing States

The United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) is pleased to launch in the Caribbean, poster and essay competitions to celebrate in 2014 the International Year of Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

ECLAC is one of the five Regional Commissions of the United Nations, created to support the development aspirations of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean by promoting regional and subregional cooperation and integration; by continuous monitoring of the challenges being faced through data collection, research and analysis; by providing advisory services to Governments and implementing development projects and programmes in accordance with the needs and priorities of the region; and by assisting in bringing a regional perspective to global issues of concern to Latin America and the Caribbean.

The United Nations General Assembly has declared 2014 to be the International Year of Small Island Developing States. The ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, located in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, is therefore arranging to engage the countries of the subregion in varying activities throughout the year to promote wider knowledge and understanding of the critical issues especially relevant to the sustainable development of small island developing states in the Caribbean.

The poster competition for primary and secondary schools and the essay competition for secondary and tertiary level students are among the important regional activities being organized by ECLAC to celebrate the International Year of SIDS. By these contests, the youth of the Caribbean will be encouraged to express through art and the written word their perspective on both the challenges and opportunities of small island living.

The contests will be open to the children and youth of the sixteen Caribbean States that are members of the United Nations\(^1\) and the twelve non-self-governing Caribbean territories that are Associate Member Countries of ECLAC\(^2\).

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\(^1\) Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.

\(^2\) Anguilla, Aruba, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Curacao, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Montserrat, Puerto Rico, Turks and Caicos Islands, United States Virgin Islands.
The guidelines for participation in both competitions are attached. Adjudication will occur at both the national and regional level. The regional winners of these competitions will be announced by March 31, 2014, and will be recognized at the high level celebration of the International Year of SIDS on April 24. We invite you to circulate, as appropriate, the information on these important contests to all primary, secondary and tertiary institutions of learning in your country. We look forward to your enthusiastic participation!
INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF SIDS

POSTER COMPETITION

Rules and Guidelines

The Poster Competition will be open to contestants from eligible countries in two categories:

(a) Junior Division - Children ages 12 years and under
(b) Senior Division - Youth ages 12+ to 18 years

The Junior Division should be administered at the primary school level; the Senior Division at the secondary school level.

The Competition will be conducted through the primary and secondary level schools throughout the Caribbean subregion. Each individual entry should be submitted through the contestant’s school.

1. The contestants are invited to create a drawing expressing their vision of one of the competition’s themes as follows:
   (i) Island Living: Small is Beautiful
   (ii) Protecting our island home: the impact of climate change
   (iii) A rich heritage and culture: the true wealth of our nations
   (iv) Going green: reducing waste and promoting sustainable energy use

2. Drawings can utilize coloured pencils, crayons, paints and mixed media;

3. The name and date of birth of the contestant should be written on the back of the drawing, together with the name and contact information, and stamp of the school;

4. All entries submitted become the property of the National Selection Committee and ECLAC, and may be used for national display and regional promotional purposes;


   Each school may submit no more than three entries, selected by the school administration, for submission to the respective country’s National Selection Committee no later than February 28, 2014.

   The National Selection Committee comprising country representatives designated by the Ministry of Education will serve as a Panel of Judges who will choose three winners (first, second and third place) at each of the primary and secondary levels.

   The national first place winners at both the primary and secondary levels will be submitted to ECLAC for the adjudication of the winning entries at the regional level.
The National and Regional winners will be announced by March 31, 2014. Regional winners will be recognized at the High Level Event celebrating the International Year of SIDS in Kingston Jamaica, April 24, 2014.

The contestants’ work will be assessed on its interpretation of the chosen theme, as well as on its artistic and creative expression.

Contestants are invited to consult the ECLAC website at www.eclacpos.org for information on SIDS.

For further information please contact Ms. Denise Balgobin at denise.balgobin@eclac.org and (868)224-8000 or Ms Veera Deokiesingh-Fraser at veera.deokiesinghfraser@eclac.org, and (868) 224-8006.
INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF SIDS

ESSAY COMPETITION

Rules and Guidelines

The Essay Competition will be open to contestants from eligible countries in two categories:

(a) Secondary Division - Youth ages 12 to 18 years
(b) Tertiary Division - Youth ages 18+ to 25 years

- Contestants in the Secondary Division will write a 500 - 1000 word essay
- Contestants in the Tertiary Division will write a 1000 - 1500 word essay

All contestants will address the following topic:

“Unleashing the creativity and resilience of our people to build prosperous Caribbean Societies”

Contestants will be expected to discuss what they see as the critical development issues facing the small states of the Caribbean, whether economic, social or environmental, and to suggest ways to create opportunities for growth and development, particularly for the benefit of the youth of the subregion.

The following guidelines should be observed:

1. Only original work from the student will be accepted.
2. Each submission must reflect the student's own research, writing and original thinking.
3. Only one entry may be submitted by each student.
4. Essays must be typed double spaced using Times New Roman, 12 point.
5. Essays may be submitted in hard copy or by email in PDF format
6. All entries submitted become the property of ECLAC
7. Each submission must include a title page, not considered text, with the following information:
   (i) Title of the essay
   (ii) Contestant’s name, date of birth and contact information
   (iii) School name, address and contact information, and school stamp
The competition will be judged at the national level by a Panel of Judges comprising country representatives designated by the Ministry of Education. Essays will be assessed on substantive content, structure, grammar, style and creativity. The regional adjudication will be undertaken by ECLAC. National and regional winners will be announced by March 31, 2014. Regional winners will be recognized at the High Level Event celebrating the International Year of SIDS in Kingston Jamaica, April 24, 2014.

The deadline for submission of entries is February 28, 2014. Completed entries should be sent to the attention of the National Selection Committee, care of your country’s Ministry of Education.

Contestants are invited to consult the ECLAC website at: www.eclacpos.org for information on SIDS.

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