In 2020, Belize experienced a sharp GDP decline of 14.1% in 2020.

Downturn in tourism and agriculture due to pandemic and climate events.

Unemployment rate: 29.6%.
Underemployment rate: 38%.

Income per capita fell to levels like those in 1992.

Poverty increased by 15% to 56% of the population in 2020.

GDP growth projection for 2021 is 2.3%.

“Superbond” has been successfully renegotiated.

Debt-to-GDP ratio reduced from 127% to 115%.

National debt, previously BZ$4 billion, is now BZ$3.5 billion.
POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

• The People’s United Party (PUP) elected as government in the general elections held on 11 November 2020

• Election turnout was 81%

• Hon. John Briceño became Belize’s fourth Prime Minister

• Immediate priorities: pandemic response & economic recovery

• H.E. Froyla Tzalam was installed as Belize’s third Governor-General
COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Situation as of 30 November 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Confirmed cases</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>% of population fully vaccinated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30,338</td>
<td>574</td>
<td>48.88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatality rate</td>
<td>1.89%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positivity rate</td>
<td>9.05%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of people fully vaccinated</td>
<td>190,806</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Public Health Measures
- Mandatory use of face masks
- Curfew
- Physical distancing requirements for hotels, restaurants, public events, churches
- Mandatory vaccination for public workers, including teachers
## COVID-19 PANDEMIC

### Vaccine Diplomacy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Doses/Company</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barbados</td>
<td>1000 doses (AstraZeneca)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>25,000 doses (AstraZeneca)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Arab Emirates</td>
<td>10,000 doses (Sinopharm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COVAX Facility</td>
<td>100,800 doses (AstraZeneca)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Self financed in three deliveries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>42,000 doses (AstraZeneca)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States of America</td>
<td>111,000 doses (Pfizer)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>100,000 doses (AstraZeneca)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Another 100,000 doses expected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa Medical Supply Platform</td>
<td>112,000 (Johnson and Johnson)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BELIZE - GUATEMALA RELATIONS

- Submission of the case to the ICJ
- Status of the case
- Strengthening of bilateral relations
  - Ministerial meeting
  - Official visit of PM Briceno
- Challenges in the border areas
- Status of the CBMs
- Role of the OAS
BELIZE-UNITED KINGDOM RELATIONS

- Appointment of New High Commissioner of Belize in London, H.E. Therese Rath

- Appointment of New Deputy British High Commissioner in Belmopan, H.E. Katherine Reynolds

- COP26 in Glasgow

- Vaccines and recognition of vaccine certificates

- Security and BATSUB

- CARIFORUM-UK Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)

- Candidatures

- Development Cooperation

- The Commonwealth

- Belize-Guatemala territorial dispute
MULTILATERAL AGENDA

CLIMATE CHANGE

- Impact of climate change at national level
- Submission of Belize’s revised NDCs
- Belize at COP26
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

• Poverty reduction at the national level
• Commitment to Agenda 2030 and the SDGs
• Membership in UN ECOSOC
MULTILATERAL AGENDA

• FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT

• Challenges of access to finance
• Debt sustainability
• Access to Finance Roundtable - Co-chair with the UK, Fiji and AOSIS
REGIONAL INTEGRATION

CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM)

- CSME and the regional sugar market
- Election of Belizean Secretary-General
- COVID-19 response coordination
- Situation of Haiti
- Chairmanship of COFCOR from May 2021 to April 2022
REGIONAL INTEGRATION

CENTRAL AMERICAN INTEGRATION SYSTEM (SICA)

• Instability and migration
• Pending election of new Secretary-General

HEMISPHERIC ORGANIZATIONS

• CELAC
• OAS
## The Way Forward: Plan Belize

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FOREIGN POLICY</th>
<th>AGRICULTURE</th>
<th>TOURISM</th>
<th>EDUCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strengthening diplomatic outreach</td>
<td>Expand trade with Mexico, Central America and CARICOM</td>
<td>Build Belize as a first-class tourist destination while protecting natural and human resources</td>
<td>Short to medium term: Ongoing vaccination of school-aged children Phased re-opening of schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Chairmanship of CARICOM - January to June 2022</td>
<td>Improve access to affordable financing for farmers</td>
<td>Build a world-class name brand</td>
<td>Long term: Free Education from Pre-School to 6th Form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Membership in UN ECOSOC - 2022 to 2024</td>
<td>Build climate resilience systems of land use</td>
<td>Encourage local investment in tourism by Belizeans</td>
<td>• Establish a teacher and learning institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• ICJ case preparation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Expand the teaching of African and Mayan History</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Way Forward: Plan Belize

**CITIZEN SECURITY**
- Increase police recruitment by 1,000 officers
- Reform police training and recruitment
- Digital services to be provided by court system

**ENVIRONMENT**
- Establish the Chiquibul-Mountain Pine Ridge Landscape Conservation Trust to protect this indispensable ecosystem
- Reduce uncontrolled land-clearing & enforce sustainable land use policies

**INFRASTRUCTURE**
- Assess & maintain highways & existing structures
- Build in phases affordable starter homes

**DEBT MANAGEMENT**
- 8-12% salary cut for public officers and increment freeze for 3 years
- Fiscal discipline
- Blue bond initiative
Thank You

Belize High Commission in London