



A simple survey of what is going on in the island shows a booming construction sector, rising tourism numbers, rapidly falling telecommunications' costs due to liberalisation, a pro-active banking and financial services sector that is growing through cross-border mergers and acquisitions, an economy that is further developing its traditional sectors by means of innovation and modernisation, and an economy that is witnessing growing investment from far-off places as diverse as the USA, Europe and China.

The island's social stability stems from Barbadians' preference for discussion and mutually beneficial compromise. This preference for managed and orderly development has been given concrete form in the Social Partnership, a forum in which the country's private sector, governmental and trades union representatives come together to consult on important matters of national economic and social policy.

Already a chosen destination for those that wish to invest in sectors such as real estate and tourism development, as well as enjoying a longstanding reputation as a secure and well-regulated jurisdiction for offshore companies, Barbados is now strengthening its attractions as it moves towards its declared goal of becoming the world's smallest developed nation.