



Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Commerce



Presented by:
Department and Commerce



Overview

- International Trade
- Consumer Affairs
 - Consumer protection





- What is International Trade?





- International Trade refers to the exchange of products and services from one country to another.





Main areas :

- Trade in Goods
(Trade Facilitation)
- Trade in Services





Main Organisations SVG is a part of related to trade

- OECS <https://oeecs.org/>
- CARICOM <https://caricom.org/>





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OECS





Benefits of OECS

- Free movement of people (work and live)
- Economic Union
- Joint institutions



**Organisation of
Eastern Caribbean States**





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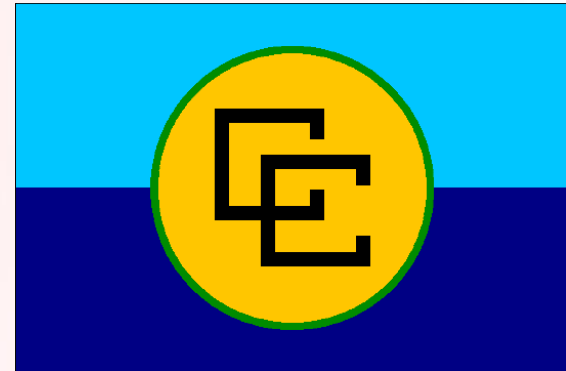
CARICOM





Benefits of CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME)

- Free movement of people (categories)
 - Artistes
 - Musician
 - Sports persons
 - Media workers
 - Nurses
 - Teachers
 - Artisan with CVQ
 - Security guards
 - Agricultural workers
 - Household domestics with CVQ or equivalent qualification
 - University Graduates and holders of Associate Degrees





Benefits of CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME)

- Free movement of Goods
- Free movement of Service Providers
- Right of Establishment
- Free movement of Capital



CARIFORUM

- Comprises the 15 CARICOM States and the Dominican Republic.
- These States have entered into a Economic Partner with the EU.EPA





WTO

- **World Trade Organization**
 - Made up of 164 members
 - a forum for negotiating agreements aimed at reducing obstacles to International trade and ensuring a level playing field for all members.





Trade Agreements

- SVG is a part of Bilateral Trade Agreements
- CARIFORUM/EU Economic Partnership Agreement
- CARIFORUM/UK Economic Partnership Agreement
 - CARICOM/Cuba
 - CARICOM/Costa Rica
 - CARICOM/Colombia
 - CARICOM/Dominican Republic
 - CARICOM/Venezuela





Benefits from these Agreements

- Preferential trade
 - less duties payable on goods entering the market of these countries. This can make your goods more competitive.
 - exporting of services



Main Export Market

- Trinidad and Tobago
- St. Lucia
- Antigua and Barbuda
- Dominica
- Barbados





Main Export Products

- Flour
- Beer
- Animal feeds
- Rice
- Root Crops
- Malt Beverages
- Doors, Windows etc
- Fish





Main source of Imports

- North America
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Europe





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Consumer Affairs





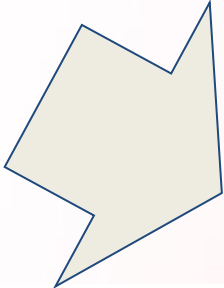
Main functions of Consumer Affairs

1. Traders License
1. Price control
1. Consumer Protection





AIM

- 
- Understanding your rights and responsibilities





Eight Basic Consumer Rights



Safety
Information
Choice
Representation
Basic Needs
Redress
Consumer Education
Healthy Environment



Current Status of Consumer Protection

- Consumer Protection Act 2020 –Purpose - is to promote and advance the social and economic welfare of consumers in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines by –
 - (a) Establishing a **legal** framework for the achievement and maintenance of a consumer **market** that is **fair, accessible, efficient and sustainable**;
 - (b) minimising any disadvantages experienced;
 - (c) promoting **fair** and ethical **business practices**;



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Current Status of Consumer Protection Cont.

- (d) Promoting consumer confidence, through individual and group education, vigilance, advocacy and activism;
- (e) Providing a **consistent, accessible** and efficient system of **consensual** resolution of disputes arising from consumer transactions; and





Current Status of Consumer Protection Cont.



- (f) Providing for an **accessible**, **consistent**, **harmonized**, **effective** and efficient system of redress for consumers.

- NB:** THE ACT HAS TO BE PROCLAIMED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.





Responsibilities of Consumers

- 1. Inspect goods before making purchases
- 1. Collect proof of transaction
- 1. Know proper use of product/service





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4. Look for affordable prices and good quality

Beware of misleading advertisements



A Chinese old saying goes, “You get what you pay for”



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5. Be skeptical of sale or discount goods.

Sale or discounts signs are attractive, discount always indicates poor quality, flaws or other shortages.



A Chinese old saying goes, “You get what you pay for”



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6. Consumers must be aware of their rights

Only Complain for genuine grievances



'WHERE?



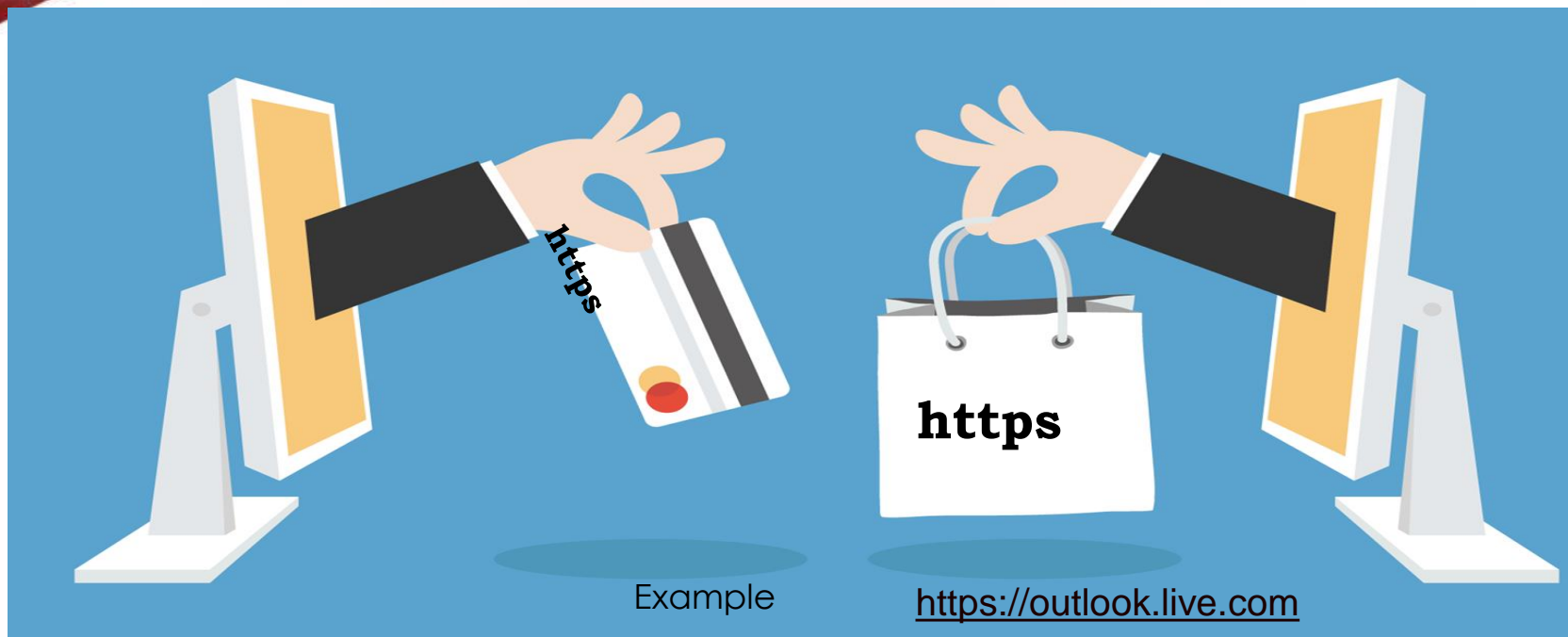
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Advice for Shopping online





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- Use only sites whose address starts with “**https:**” they are more secure.



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Protect your personal details.

Do not click on unfamiliar sites or links in strange emails. Once you start a purchase on these sites, your personal information, including your name, date of birth, address, phone number, credit card number and passwords, will be stolen.



Challenge to Students

- Choose a career that can benefit others as well as yourself.
- Set goals and work towards achieving them.
- Dedication and committed to educational development is essential for a successful career



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HARD WORK

+

DREAMS

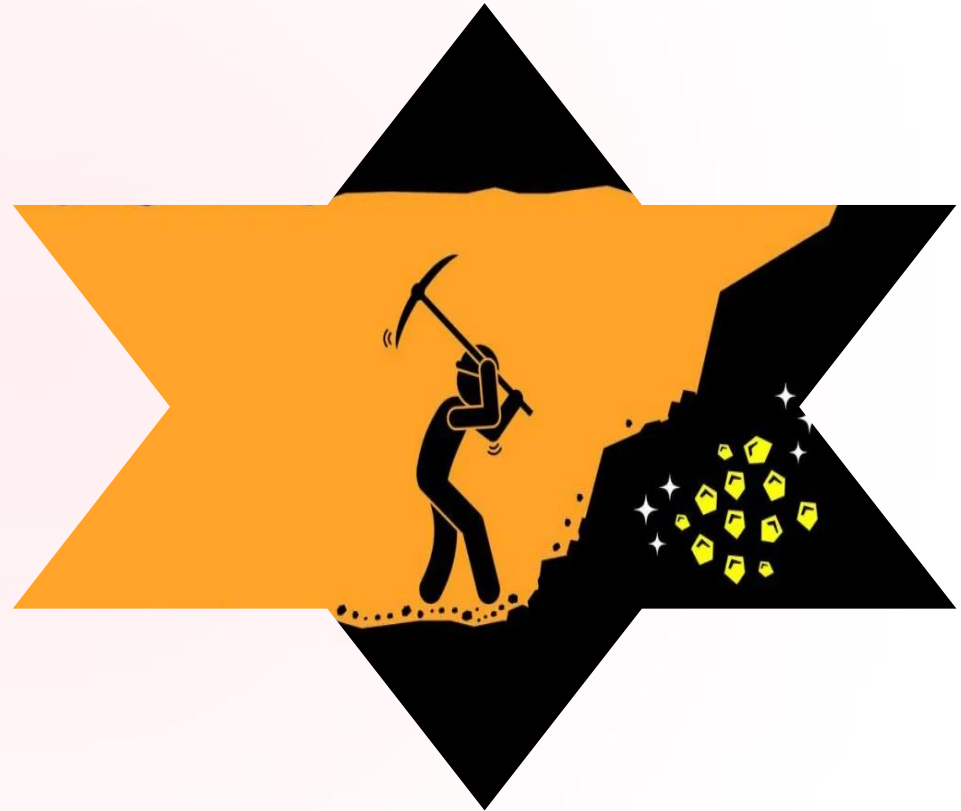
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DEDICATION

=

SUCCESS.

KUSHANDWIZDOM





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THANK YOU

... and Safe
Shopping.

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