What a planning map must show in Antigua and Barbuda



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A planning tool that works in St John’s can still misread a channel used by fishers in Codrington. This paper proposes a common record for permits, school access and coastal development, with each island able to challenge what the record shows.

The decision before local leaders

This paper proposes two starting points for Antigua and Barbuda. Before either begins, the service owner should agree on an existing comparison service, a way to challenge an error and the conditions for ending the trial.

Compare an annotated lagoon map with a field visit before releasing a planning layer.

Proposed lead. Proposed coastal planning lead and invited Barbudan reviewers

What to measure. Count disputed features, features checked and corrections incorporated before release.

Try one school access plan with pupils using different entrances and mobility aids.

Proposed lead. Participating headteacher and accessibility representative

What to measure. Record completed routes and unresolved barriers by entrance.

Local evidence in context

Indicator	Value	Observation	Source
Population	94,209	2025	World Bank WDI
GDP per person, current US dollars	24,819	2025	World Bank WDI
Residents aged 65 and over	12.3%	2025	World Bank WDI
People using the internet	72.7%	2024	ITU / World Bank

The year and geographic coverage belong to each observation. These figures describe the jurisdiction as a whole. Collect service-level figures before setting a cost target, staff requirement or digital access threshold.

Economic and social needs

Construction and visitor demand

The IMF reported that construction supported growth in 2025 even as tourism activity slowed. Forecasts based chiefly on visitor arrivals could therefore miss the pressure a new development places on roads, water or a work crew. A proposed planning trial would give officers both series, the assumptions behind the forecast and a way to record costs raised by residents before a permit recommendation advances.

Policy response. Test a proposed development against a construction-led scenario as well as a tourism-led one.

IMF, Antigua and Barbuda Article IV consultation (2026)

A school route pupils can use

The Caribbean Development Bank’s education project includes upgrades to four schools with disability access and resilience to hurricanes and flooding. An AI-generated access plan might identify the building and still route a pupil to a locked gate. Schools considering such a tool should invite pupils and carers to walk the route, test the instructions offline and record the barriers they find.

Policy response. A school should sign off each route only after an accessibility walk with the people who use it.

Caribbean Development Bank, Education Enhancement and Quality Improvement Project

Public institutions and environmental needs

A place for the Barbuda Council in review

The Barbuda Local Government Act assigns duties to the Barbuda Council. A single approval button in a national planning system could conceal the difference between recording the Council's observations and obtaining a decision from the public body with the relevant authority. A project brief should identify each body, the question it must answer and any disagreement that remains when the map goes to the decision maker.

Policy response. Publish the review route for each proposed use and retain the Council's response in its own words.

Government of Antigua and Barbuda, Barbuda Local Government Act, Cap. 44

A lagoon can look empty from above

The Ramsar site record describes Codrington Lagoon's wetland habitats on Barbuda's western and north-western coast. A survey photograph shows the water surface on one day. It cannot, on its own, establish who uses a channel or which habitat lies below. A trial map should distinguish inspected areas from unobserved water and allow fishers to flag a concern without publishing a productive location.

Policy response. Require field evidence before a map classification influences a coastal permit.

Ramsar Sites Information Service, Codrington Lagoon site record

How the policy would change a decision

Test the service with a scripted consultation in which the patient denies one allergy and reports another. The clinician compares the summary with the recording, corrects the entry and checks the signed note. Repeat with a passage the microphone does not capture clearly.

- Explain who can listen to the recording, why the clinic needs it, and how a patient can ask to see or correct information.
- Document the condition that permits the proposed handling of sensitive data. Ask the supplier to demonstrate access restrictions and what happens when the audio reaches its deletion date.
- Check whether a correction reaches any part of the patient record that copied the original summary.

The clinical lead should approve the service only after checking how it handles uncertain audio and medication allergies. The officer responsible for patient data should retain the supplier’s access and deletion evidence and withhold approval while any proposed training use lacks a documented basis.

Source: CAIA jurisdiction guide for Antigua and Barbuda. The worked example illustrates the proposal.

Check the map on both islands

Ask Barbudan fishers and guides to test the proposed map alongside officials in Antigua. Offer a paper map for corrections to place names. Fishers should be able to flag habitat without giving away a productive fishing ground.

The local pilot connects to Agriculture and fisheries. Review R02 · R05 in the regional risk register.

Implementation and public review

Stage	Evidence or decision	Proposed responsibility
Before the trial	Define a completed case and sample the current process. Include people who use the phone, desk or an offline route.	Proposed coastal planning lead and invited Barbudan reviewers
During shadow testing	Count disputed features, features checked and corrections incorporated before release. Compare the same cases through both routes and record every override.	Proposed coastal planning lead and invited Barbudan reviewers
At the local decision	Record completed routes and unresolved barriers by entrance. Record whether the result justifies a live trial and identify the person who can stop it.	Participating headteacher and accessibility representative
After six months	Publish results by channel, the correction time, unresolved complaints and the decision to continue, revise or stop.	Local service owner

What partners can share

Coastal managers could split the cost of testing reef maps. Each authority decides which records can leave its island and whether the map can inform a permit.

Record the local approval, correction route and stop authority before exchanging results. Other jurisdictions can reuse the method and run their own tests. Regional recommendation 5.

Where to draw the boundary

An office adopting this proposal would still need to check its own powers, contracts and data permissions. Organisations named as possible reviewers or leads have not been appointed by this publication. Publish any accepted role and its date with the local trial record.

A 90-day plan for the first service

Compare an annotated lagoon map with a field visit before releasing a planning layer.

Proposed pilot lead. Proposed coastal planning lead and invited Barbudan reviewers

A lagoon map removes a use that fishers rely on

Failure to test. A draft planning layer marks a surveyed area unused even though fishers or a field team supplied contrary observations.

Evidence to retain. Keep the marked map, dated field notes and disputed features reviewed with authorised Barbudan participants.

Pause condition. The planning layer can leave the review team while a disputed use remains unmarked.

When	Proposed action and evidence
Days 1–30	Proposed coastal planning lead and invited Barbudan reviewers agrees the eligible cases, existing service measures, staffed alternative and authorised decision owner. Record reviewers and a cost estimate in local currency for staff time, testing, access and recovery. Identify the funding source and who would approve it.

When	Proposed action and evidence
Days 31–60	Run the original and proposed routes on the same sample. Count disputed features, features checked and corrections incorporated before release. Report counted errors and eligible cases by channel and language where lawful, plus the time from error report to correction.
Days 61–90	Witness the fallback, correction and restart before asking the accountable officer for a decision. Pause on the condition above. Record affected cases, unresolved issues, costs and the date for the next check.
Six months after live launch	Publish a lawful comparison with the baseline, including corrections, open complaints and the decision to continue, change or end the use.

Sponsorship, funding and the proposed lead’s acceptance require a recorded local decision. Share test methods with Caribbean partners using the local data permissions.

Sector guide · Ramsar Sites Information Service, Codrington Lagoon site record · Local evidence and sources · Regional high-impact use rules · Local risk scenario

Sources and method

The committee used published local evidence to select the four priorities and compared them with the Caribbean AI Framework's requirements for access, data, skills, oversight and adoption. Recommendations and stories are editorial proposals. This edition reports no results from a completed local pilot.

1. IMF, Antigua and Barbuda Article IV consultation (2026)
2. Caribbean Development Bank, Education Enhancement and Quality Improvement Project
3. Government of Antigua and Barbuda, Barbuda Local Government Act, Cap. 44
4. Ramsar Sites Information Service, Codrington Lagoon site record
5. World Bank WDI — Population
6. World Bank WDI — GDP per person, current US dollars
7. World Bank WDI — Residents aged 65 and over
8. ITU / World Bank — People using the internet
9. Antigua and Barbuda jurisdiction guide, Caribbean AI Association
10. Antigua and Barbuda pilot note, Caribbean AI Association
11. Caribbean AI Framework, consultation edition, 27 November 2026

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