



TRADEWINDS 2012



Fact Sheet



U.S. Marine Corps Forces, South, based in Miami, is facilitating Tradewinds 2012, which is the 28th annual Tradewinds exercise. Tradewinds 2012 is designed to improve responses to regional security threats and will focus on maritime interdiction, search and rescue operations, basic ground forces and law enforcement tactics, techniques and procedures with an emphasis on command and control. The exercise will consist of three independent training tracks; a maritime track, a ground tactical track, and a regional level command post exercise.

Overview

Tradewinds 2012 is a U.S. Southern Command-sponsored annual exercise conducted in Barbados, West Indies in conjunction with Partner Nations (PN) to enhance the collective abilities of the PN's Defense Forces and constabularies to Counter Transnational Organized Crime (CTOC) and conduct Humanitarian Aid/Disaster Relief (HA/DR) operations while developing strong and lasting relationships and reinforcing human rights awareness in support of U.S. Southern Command's objectives.



Key Points

PARTNERSHIPS

Improving regional security and stability requires strong partnerships. Tradewinds will bring together military, law enforcement and other government officials from the United States, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Bahamas, Belize, Canada, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago.

REGIONAL STABILITY

Tradewinds 2012 will strengthen participant nations' capacities to counter and deter illegal activities associated with illicit trafficking, which is a significant threat to security and stability in the Western Hemisphere.

COLLECTIVE CAPABILITIES

Tradewinds 2012 strengthens participating civil and military services collective ability to meet transnational threats. The transnational nature of the 21st century security threats requires stronger civil and military regional and multinational cooperation.

REGIONAL COMMITMENT

Tradewinds 2012 focuses on regional forces to continue developing solid, working relationships based on mutual respect and an open exchange of ideas. We all share the common goal of defeating regional security threats and are committed to building lasting partnerships that will allow us to train together, share knowledge, and increase interoperability benefiting regional security.