2026

LATINOSAN

Dominican Republic

LATIN AMERICAN SANITATION CONFERENCE

Innovation, inclusion, and resilience:
Sanitation to promote health, equity, and sustainability in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Punta Cana, June 2-4.

INAPA

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LATINOSAN 2026
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TITLE: INTEGRATED SANITATION SOLUTIONS FOR BELIZE'S COASTAL AND TOURISM COMMUNITIES.

Speakers: Cornelio Acosta and Ervin Flores, Belize Water Services, Belize.

Belize and the Blue Economy

Global Leader in the Blue Economy Agenda

It is on track. Issued a Blue Bond for Ocean Conservation (blue finance innovation). Created sector institutionality (Blue Economy Ministry).

Leadership at risk

The blue economy depends on clean waters. Land-based pollution undermines conservation efforts. Without increased sewage and wastewater coverage, Belize's blue economy leadership is at risk.

Fixing the sanitation gap as strategic opportunity

Belize can turn sewage and wastewater management into an opportunity to consolidate its Blue Economy leadership and unlock its benefits.

The National Sanitation Challenge

Limited acces to safe sanitation

Only 11% of households are connected to wastewater collection and treatment systems — limited to Belize City, Belmopan and San Pedro.

On-site systems are failing

Most on-site sanitation facilities (septic tanks, pit latrines) show **operation and maintenance deficiencies,** leading to **direct discharge into mangroves and waterways.**

Growing environmental pressures

Untreated wastewater **is impacting coastal and freshwater ecosystems**. The value of Belize's ecosystems is threatened by pollution from inadequately treated sewage.

Sanitation as a Strategic Investment in Tourism Sustainability

Wastewater management is not only an environmental issue – it is an economic competitiveness issue

- Clean beaches and coastal waters sustain tourism demand
- Marine ecosystem health supports fisheries and recreation
- Public health protection for residents and visitors
- Climate resilience and destination branding

Belize's National Sanitation Plan

Develop a National Sewer Masterplan

National Phased Implementation Strategy

Caye Caulker Wastewater Project

Protecting Ecosystems and Strengthening the Blue Economy

Environmental Outcomes

- Improved coastal water quality
- Reduced nutrient loading
- Mangrove and reef protection
- Reduced groundwater contamination

Economic Outcomes

- Tourism competitiveness
- Increased resilience
- Enhanced public health
- Long-term infrastructure value

Institutional Outcomes

- Stronger wastewater governance
- Improved monitoring systems
- Climate-informed planning

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