



Stakeholders from the institutional, sports, and educational sectors gathered for the U18 tournament



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NEWS

CEES : SPORTS, CULTURE, AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT SERVING THE YOUTH OF SAINT-MARTIN

The Center for Excellence and Education through Sport remains committed to supporting youth, educational success, athletic achievement, and cultural exchange. In May 2026, several major initiatives highlighted this momentum: institutional meetings with national federations, participation in an educational and intercultural event at Soualiga Middle School, and support for the organization of the Sisters Islands Basketball Tournament U18, a regional youth basketball tournament in the Caribbean. Through these initiatives, the CEES reaffirms its commitment to making sports a key driver of education, regional cooperation, and talent development.

FLAC 2026 : Sports, Culture, and Civic Engagement at Soualiga Middle School

CEES also participated in the Festival of Languages, Arts, and Culture (FLAC 2026), which was organized around the theme: "At the Crossroads of Global Citizens – Let's Cultivate Our Universality".

On May 7, 2026, Collège Soualiga hosted a workshop bringing together 52 student-athletes for an educational experience that combined creativity, self-expression, cooperation, and intercultural challenges. Organized by SoualiganSlangs, with facilitators Jackie, Galéa, and Yohanne, this initiative highlighted key principles:

- respect ;
- fairness ;
- inclusion ;
- authenticity ;
- brotherhood ;
- openness to other cultures.

Beyond the activity itself, this workshop served as a reminder that sports are a powerful tool for teaching citizenship. They encourage open communication, cooperation, self-confidence, and respect for others.



Ylann Romney (second from the left) receives an award at the Sports and Citizenship Awards – FLAC 2026

In the same vein, the FLAC 2026 Sports and Citizenship Award, presented at the CCISM, honored Ylann Romney, a student-athlete on the CST football team. The jury praised his dedication, maturity, commitment to sports, and public speaking skills.

This recognition fully reflects the CEES's mission: to support young people who are capable of excelling in their field while also developing into responsible citizens.



FLAC 2026 Workshop at Soualiga Middle School, bringing student-athletes together around the values of citizenship and cultural openness

STRENGTHENING THE REGIONAL SPORTS CENTERS PROGRAM : Federal initiatives to support student-athletes in their academic and athletic journeys



Meeting with representatives of the French Baseball and Softball Federation at the CEES.

As part of its regional development strategy, the CEES hosted working meetings with national baseball and softball organizations.

The meeting with the French Baseball and Softball Federation provided an opportunity to discuss the prospects for developing the sport in Saint Martin, particularly with regard to training, talent identification, support for young players, and the gradual development of performance pathways.

In attendance were:

- **Didier Seminet**, President of the French Baseball and Softball Federation;
- **Boris Rothermundt**, National Technical Director;
- **Agnès De Polo**, Regional Federal Liaison Officer.

These discussions were led by the CEES, represented by **Charles-Henri Palvaire**, Executive Director, and **Leslie Ardon**, Head of the Pathways & Performance Division.

This initiative reflects a clear goal: to align national federal policies with local realities in order to develop solutions tailored to the needs of young athletes in Saint Martin, such as the creation of a new regional sports center (CST) for baseball and softball.

At the same time, the partnership with the **French Baseball Federation** is part of this same effort to build infrastructure. It aims to strengthen the links between school sports, clubs, local programs, and national governing bodies, with the goal of providing more consistent support for young talent.

SIBT U18



Action from the Sisters Islands Basketball U18 Tournament at the Marigot Sports Arena

SAINT MARTIN AT THE HEART OF BASKETBALL CARIBBEAN YOUTH

From May 14 to 17, 2026, the sports hall at Jean-Louis Vanterpool Stadium in Marigot hosted the Sisters Islands U18 Basketball Tournament, organized by the CTBIN (Territorial Basketball Committee of the Northern Islands).

This regional competition brought together eight delegations:

- États-Unis ;
- Anguilla ;
- Statia ;
- Tortola ;
- Sint Maarten ;
- Guadeloupe ;
- Martinique ;
- Saint-Martin.

Designed as a sporting, educational, and regional event, the SIBT U18 pursued three major objectives:

1. to promote competitive basketball among young people;
2. to strengthen sporting ties among Caribbean nations;
3. to provide a showcase for the region's emerging talent.

The program alternated between official games, the opening ceremony, competition rounds, finals, trophy presentations, formal receptions, and press conferences. This organization helped highlight the delegations, partners, institutions, and all stakeholders involved in the event.

Supported by the CEES, the Collectivité of Saint Martin, and the CTOS, the SIBT U18 reaffirms Saint Martin's role as a driving force in the development of youth basketball in the Caribbean.

Beyond the athletic results—such as the victory in the final by the young Saint-Martinians against the U.S.—this event demonstrated the territory's ability to host major regional events, to unite local efforts, and to offer young athletes a formative, competitive experience that opens them up to their Caribbean environment.

A SHARED GOAL: TO TRAIN, SUPPORT, AND OPEN UP NEW OPPORTUNITIES

These initiatives, carried out in May 2026, reflect a clear focus: making sports a tool for education, community building, performance, and regional outreach. The CEES is thus continuing its efforts to organize its work around three priorities:

- support young people in their athletic and educational development;
- strengthen partnerships with institutions, associations, and local stakeholders;
- position Saint Martin as a territory capable of initiating, hosting, and supporting large-scale sports and educational projects.

CEES REMAINS COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING THE YOUTH OF SAINT MARTIN

In May 2026, the Center for Excellence and Education through Sport stepped up its efforts with several key events: exchanges with the national baseball, softball, and basketball federations; participation in the 2026 FLAC at Soualiga College; and support for the Sisters Islands U18 Basketball Tournament held in Saint Martin. These initiatives reflect a shared ambition: to make sports a catalyst for education, citizenship, regional cooperation, and the promotion of young talent. By combining training, culture, performance, and a Caribbean outlook, the CEES reaffirms its role as a key player dedicated to serving youth and advancing sports development in the region.



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