

Inception Report — Adaptive capacity for marine protected area governance in the eastern Caribbean



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Citation

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Disclaimer

This report was prepared by the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) under award NA11NOS4820012 from the NOS International Program Office (IPO), U.S. Department of Commerce. The statements, findings, conclusions, and recommendations are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the NOS International Program Office (IPO) or the U.S. Department of Commerce.

INTRODUCTION

The Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) at The University of the West Indies' Cave Hill Campus in Barbados responded successfully to Funding Opportunity NOAA-NOS-IPO-2011-2002585 and entered into a Coral Reef Conservation Program (CRCP) International Coral Reef Conservation Cooperative Agreement from 1 October 2011 to 1 October 2012 (award NA11NOS4820012). The project is entitled 'Adaptive capacity for MPA governance in the eastern Caribbean'. Participating countries are Grenada, Saint Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Project value is US\$230,000 with half from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) grant funding and the remainder matched mainly by CERMES with minor contributions from the participating countries.

The project contributes to Priority Goal One of the NOAA CRCP International Strategy is to: *work with regional initiatives to build MPA networks and strengthen local management capacity to improve and maintain resilience of coral reef ecosystems and the human communities that depend on them.* More specifically it tackles Objective 2 which is to: *develop and implement comprehensive long-term capacity building programs for existing MPAs, based on capacity assessments to provide training, technical assistance, and follow-up support specifically for a number of identified areas and optional others.* The cooperative agreement addresses the following:

- a. management planning and effectiveness evaluation;
- b. integrated monitoring linked to strategic planning;
- c. communication and community engagement; and
- d. strengthening governance and adaptation to change

COMMUNICATION

Upon inception one of the first tasks was to create a project announcement and circulate it to the participating MPAs along with communication re-confirming their participation and setting out procedures for management. The participating MPAs are Sandy Island/Oyster Bed (SIOBMPA); Molinere/Beausejour (MBMPA); Woburn/Clarke's Court Bay (WCCBMPA); Soufriere Marine Management Area (SMMA) and Tobago Cays Marine Park (TCMP). All MPAs and resource persons confirmed that they remained fully committed to the project.

The project, short-titled 'MPA Governance', has a web page linked to the Marine Resource Governance in the Eastern Caribbean (MarGov) Project on the CERMES web site from which the proposal, the announcement (Appendix 1) and much more information can be downloaded. The information will increase as the project progresses. Visit http://cermes.cavehill.uwi.edu/mpa_governance.html. Most communication will be by email.

FIELD MANAGER

The Fisheries Division of Grenada, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Grenada's Labour Commissioner were all very helpful and instrumental in granting Zahidah Nisa (informally Zaidy Khan) a work permit. Ms Khan was contracted by the UWI as a 'Marine Protected Area Specialist' for the MPA Governance project for one year. She will serve essentially as field manager to participate in the workshops and follow-up activities at all of the MPAs either in person or through communication. Assistance in finding accommodation was offered by a marine science colleague at St George's University.

Ms Khan was introduced to Grenada by her main project contact there, MPA Coordinator Roland Baldeo. Both of them and the CERMES team travelled to Puerto Morelos, Mexico, for the 64th annual meeting of the Gulf and Fisheries Institute from 31 October to 4 November 2011. Ms Khan took the initiative to seek funding for attending the conference. Her participation in the MPA agenda there was encouraged and facilitated by the GCFI team associated with the Caribbean Challenge concurrent events. Ms Khan networked vigorously.

CAPACITY SELF-ASSESSMENT FORM

The capacity self-assessment forms (Appendix 2) were designed to be intuitively simple to fill-out while covering all of the areas assigned to the project and the workshops. The similar instruments assess perceptions of capacity at the site and individual levels. We decided to explain and administer the two-page instruments at the first workshop to encourage a better response rate than if done by email. These instruments will be supplemented by regular monitoring and evaluation of capacity via the workshops and follow-up activity. At the end of the project there will be reflection on how capacity has changed over the course of the project, taking into account (as in outcome mapping) that not all outcomes will be directly attributable to the project.

FOLLOW-UP FORM

A form was designed to easily plan and document the workshop follow-up activities (Appendix 3). This was based on that used for the MarGov project small grants that proved effective. Although the form sets out the planned activities there will be considerable flexibility (practising adaptive management) with the main limitation to meeting the stated objective(s) being the limited time. Activities are to be designed to be conducted in one month so that their outputs can be shared and discussed at the next workshop. Participants will be persuaded to build upon small successes and to focus as much attention on learning from outputs and outcomes as on implementing the activities.

EVALUATION FORM

The MPA governance project will use a variation of the MarGov project one-page evaluation form to obtain quantitative and qualitative feedback from participants to assess the three workshops and writeshop. This is in addition to the oral reflections. There will be participatory monitoring and evaluation (PM&E) to influence the project implementation within the constraints of the budget and some logistic matters.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1- MPA Governance flyer

**Adaptive capacity for MPA governance
in the eastern Caribbean**

- 1) Develop the adaptive capacity of key stakeholders in Grenada for MPA governance mainly through four linked training workshops with follow-up practical learning by doing
- 2) Extend the above capacity development to Saint Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines for a limited comparison of MPA sites so as to inform potential replication
- 3) Document and foster learning from the outcomes of objectives 1 and 2 regionally and internationally through use of multiple media for communication with MPA interests

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Goal is to strengthen adaptive capacity building for the governance of MPAs in the eastern Caribbean based on resilience thinking

WORKSHOP & WRITESHOP WORKING TITLES

1. Evaluating management effectiveness emphasizing EBM, climate change and governance
2. Strategic planning, governance reform and adaptive management capacity for resilience
3. Communication, community engagement, and participatory monitoring and evaluation
4. Lessons learned from building adaptive capacity for MPA governance in the eastern Caribbean

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

Grenada
Saint Lucia
St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Oct 2011 to Sep 2012

Grant funded by a NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program - International Coral Reef Conservation Cooperative Agreement (NA11NOS4820012)

CERMES
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Appendix 2 - Capacity self-assessment form

Adaptive capacity for MPA governance in the eastern Caribbean --- MPA site assessment

MPA site _____ Respondent _____ Date

d	d	m	m	y	y
---	---	---	---	---	---

Use the 10-step scale to rate the capacity of governance arrangements at your MPA to deal with the following aspects of MPA governance that are linked to thinking about resilience. The assessment is not anonymous, but respondents will not be identified by name in reports.

A climate change

Put an X in the box on the step to rate capacity

notes _____

B ecosystem-based management

Put an X in the box on the step to rate capacity

notes _____

C strategic planning

Put an X in the box on the step to rate capacity

notes _____

D adaptive management

Put an X in the box on the step to rate capacity

notes _____

E governance reform

Put an X in the box on the step to rate capacity

notes _____

F communication

Put an X in the box on the step to rate capacity

notes _____

G community engagement

Put an X in the box on the step to rate capacity

notes _____

H participatory mon. & eval.

Put an X in the box on the step to rate capacity

notes _____

any other notes on adaptive capacity related to governance at your MPA _____

Appendix 3 - Workshop follow-up form

<p>Adaptive capacity for MPA governance in the eastern Caribbean: Follow-up Activity Form</p> <p>Please complete all sections and submit as an email attachment to patrick.mcconney@cavehill.uwi.edu</p> <p>1. Contact information</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">Workshop #</td> <td>Theme of activity</td> </tr> <tr><td>Title of activity</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Organisation</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Town/location</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Area/parish</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Country</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Activity leader</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Title of post held</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Telephone(s)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Facsimile(s)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Email address(es)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Skype name(s)</td><td></td></tr> </table> <p><small>We will use e-mail for most communication so give addresses that are reliable and are checked regularly. Type responses in the boxes below and they will expand to fit the text. Try to be concise but very clear.</small></p> <p>2. What is the purpose/objective of your activity related to adaptive capacity for MPA governance? (<100 words)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 30px; width: 100%;"></div> <p>3. What specific (measurable, verifiable) outputs will you achieve by the end of the activity? (3-5 bullet points)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div> <p>4. What is your scheduled work plan and budget for the 1-4 week activity? (Insert or delete rows as necessary)</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Task description (major tasks to be accomplished for deliverables)</th> <th>Wk1</th> <th>Wk2</th> <th>Wk3</th> <th>Wk4</th> <th>Cost (USD)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Workshop #	Theme of activity	Title of activity		Organisation		Town/location		Area/parish		Country		Activity leader		Title of post held		Telephone(s)		Facsimile(s)		Email address(es)		Skype name(s)		Task description (major tasks to be accomplished for deliverables)	Wk1	Wk2	Wk3	Wk4	Cost (USD)																			<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Task description (major tasks to be accomplished for deliverables)</th> <th>Wk1</th> <th>Wk2</th> <th>Wk3</th> <th>Wk4</th> <th>Cost (USD)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Start date: <input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/> End date: <input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/> Total budget for activity = <input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/></p> <p>5. In the table below list the critical resources or stakeholders in the activity and their roles. (Insert or delete rows)</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Critical resource or stakeholder identified</th> <th>Role in implementing the activity or specific tasks</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>6. Are there any assumptions or circumstances that may impact on successful implementation? (<100 words)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 30px; width: 100%;"></div> <p>7. If you are not authorised to sign follow-up agreements on behalf of your organisation, identify the person who is</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>Authorised person</td> <td><input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Title of post held</td> <td><input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/></td> </tr> </table> <p>8. Any other pertinent information (<100 words)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 30px; width: 100%;"></div> <p>Submitted to CERMES on (dd/mm/yy): <input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/> By (name): <input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;">The completed form is not expected to exceed three pages in length. Thank you.</p>	Task description (major tasks to be accomplished for deliverables)	Wk1	Wk2	Wk3	Wk4	Cost (USD)																			Critical resource or stakeholder identified	Role in implementing the activity or specific tasks									Authorised person	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	Title of post held	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
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1
2


Appendix 4 - Evaluation form

MPA Gov workshop evaluation form

Circle workshop number: 1 2 3 4	Date (dd/mm/yy):
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This evaluation is anonymous and intended only to assist the organisers in evaluating the event. For your information the summary of the survey results will be included in the workshop report. Kindly answer all parts to all questions. Due to the small number of participants we need your evaluation.

 *Kindly answer all of these questions*

 *Answer these as well if you wish to*

Main evaluation question for the workshop	Optional additional information if you wish										
<p>How much of your expectations did the workshop meet?</p> <p><i>Circle the number that best matches your rating</i></p> <table> <tr> <td>All</td> <td>Much</td> <td>Some</td> <td>Little</td> <td>None</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>4</td> <td>3</td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </table>	All	Much	Some	Little	None	5	4	3	2	1	<p>The main highlight was ...</p> <p>The disappointment was ...</p>
All	Much	Some	Little	None							
5	4	3	2	1							

The workshop had some stated expectations	Optional additional information if you wish										
<p>To what extent were these expectations met?</p> <p><i>Circle the number that best matches your rating</i></p> <table> <tr> <td>All</td> <td>Much</td> <td>Some</td> <td>Little</td> <td>None</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>4</td> <td>3</td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </table>	All	Much	Some	Little	None	5	4	3	2	1	<p>The highlight of meeting these was ...</p> <p>The disappointment of these was ...</p>
All	Much	Some	Little	None							
5	4	3	2	1							

How do you rate overall benefits from the workshop?	Share any additional comments in this space										
<p><i>Circle the number that best matches your rating</i></p> <table> <tr> <td>Excellent</td> <td>Good</td> <td>Okay</td> <td>Fair</td> <td>Poor</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>4</td> <td>3</td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </table>		Excellent	Good	Okay	Fair	Poor	5	4	3	2	1
Excellent		Good	Okay	Fair	Poor						
5	4	3	2	1							
How would you rate workshop arrangements overall?											
<p><i>Circle the number that best matches your rating</i></p> <table> <tr> <td>Excellent</td> <td>Good</td> <td>Okay</td> <td>Fair</td> <td>Poor</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>4</td> <td>3</td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </table>	Excellent	Good	Okay	Fair	Poor	5	4	3	2	1	
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5	4	3	2	1							

Thank you for your evaluation ... Kindly hand in the completed form to the organiser