BIOPAMA REGIONAL INCEPTION MEETING FOR THE CARIBBEAN

MEETING REPORT

6-7 March, 2018
Knutsford Court Hotel
New Kingston, Jamaica

Donors & Implementing Partners

www.biopama.org

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List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

ABS	–	Access and Benefit Sharing
ACP	–	Africa, Caribbean and Pacific
BID	–	Biodiversity Information for Development
BIOPAMA	–	Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management
CaMPAM	–	Caribbean Marine Protected Areas Management
CANARI	–	Caribbean Natural Resources Institute
CARICOM	–	The Caribbean Community
CBD	–	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBO	–	Community Based Organisation
CBF	–	Caribbean Biodiversity Fund
CEPF	–	Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund
CERMES	–	Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies
CLME+	–	Caribbean & North Brazil Large Marine Ecosystems Project
CREWs	–	Credible Reliable Energetic Willing persons
CRMB	–	Caribbean Region Marine Biodiversity
EC	–	European Commission
ECMMAN	–	Eastern Caribbean Marine Managed Area Network
EBA	–	Ecosystems Based Adaptation
EBM DSS	–	Ecosystem-Based Management – Decision Support System
EDF	–	European Development Fund
EU	–	European Union
FAO	–	Food and Agriculture Organisation
GBIF	–	Global Biodiversity Information Facility
GD PAME	–	Global Database on Protected Area Management Effectiveness
GEF SGP	–	Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme
GCRMN	–	Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network
ISP	–	Integrated Spatial Planning
IUCN	–	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
JRC	–	Joint Research Centre
KAP	–	Knowledge Aptitude and Practice
KBAs	–	Key Biodiversity Areas
LAC	–	Latin America and the Caribbean
LMEs	–	Large Marine Ecosystems
METT	–	Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool
MEAs	–	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
MPAs	–	Marine Protected Areas
NCTF	–	National Conservation Trust Funds
NGO	–	Non-Governmental Organisation
OECS	–	Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States
ORMACC	–	Regional Office for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean
PA	–	Protected Areas
PAME	–	Protected Areas Management Effectiveness
pGIS	–	Participatory Geographic Information System
RIS	–	Reference Information System
RRIS	–	Regional Reference Information System
RO	–	Regional Observatories
SDG	–	Sustainable Development Goal
SoCAR	–	State of the Convention Area Report

SocMon   – Socio-economic Monitoring for Coastal Management
SoPA   – State of Protected Areas
TNC   – The Nature Conservancy
UBERI   – University of Belize's Environmental Research Institute
UNEP-CEP   – United Nations Environment Caribbean Environment Programme
UNEP-WCMC   – United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring
              Centre
UWI   – The University of the West Indies
WCPA   – World Commission on Protected Areas
WDPA   – World Database of Protected Areas

1   Introduction

The Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management Programme (BIOPAMA) aims to improve the long-term conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and natural resources in Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) regions in protected areas and surrounding communities through better use and monitoring of information and capacity development on management and governance. The programme continues from the first phase (2011-2017) to build institutional and technical capacity at the regional, national and site levels for improved PA and biodiversity management; with access to and application of data and information related to biodiversity and PA management and governance being used to inform and strengthen policy decisions and management actions.

The second phase of the Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management Programme (BIOPAMA) was launched in the Caribbean on March 6 and 7 in Kingston, Jamaica. The objectives of this meeting were to:
- Inform regional and national stakeholders of the programme's goals and objectives for Phase II and get their input on alignment of implementation with regional and national initiatives;
- Re-affirm the Caribbean Protected Areas Gateway (Caribbean Gateway) as the mechanism for supporting improved biodiversity conservation and protected areas management in the Caribbean; and
- Establish effective coordination and support mechanisms with the Caribbean constituents for their ongoing needs during BIOPAMA and for longer-term sustainability and impact.

Approximately 60 persons representing government agencies, non-governmental organisations, regional institutions, academia and donor agencies participated in this two day event. A full list of participants is available in the Annex, along with the meeting agenda.

This report captures comments and key points discussed throughout the meeting that were guided by presentations, which are available at this link.

The BIOPAMA Programme is an initiative of the ACP Group of States and is funded by the European Union (EU) under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF).

2   Opening Session

Viviana Sanchez, acting International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Regional Director for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean opened the meeting by welcoming delegates to the launch of the second phase of the programme. She expressed IUCN's commitment to continue working closely with the programme's partners to improve the quality of data for protected areas in the Caribbean region not only for information purposes, but also to facilitate the decision-making process in different sectors. She noted that this was very important not only for effective management and good governance of protected areas, but also for ensuring sustainability of biodiversity and natural resources.

Stephen Peedell, BIOPAMA Coordinator at the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC), noted JRCs continued interest to support the management process through provision of tools and services relevant to region's needs. He was keen to hear from the participants how this can best be achieved through Caribbean's Regional Observatory (RO) – the Caribbean Protected Areas Gateway.

Pro Vice Chancellor for Graduate Studies at The University of the West Indies (UWI), Professor Dale Webber, welcomed the opportunity to renew the collaboration with IUCN and the JRC in the implementation of the BIOPAMA programme and acknowledged the decision of the European Union and the ACP Group of States to renew their investment in continuing BIOPAMA. He noted that UWI has a long and deep history of research and work in the areas of conservation, resiliency and participatory governance in the marine and terrestrial protected areas space and are enthusiastic about supporting a programme that shares similar goals and ambitions in this area. He expects increased access and agility with this multi- organization alignment.

Edmund Jackson, representative of the ACP Secretariat brought greetings on behalf of the Secretary General Dr. Patrick Gomes and gave a few remarks. He emphasized the mission of the BIOPAMA programme, to provide support and benefits to the 79 African, Caribbean and Pacific States, and encouraged the countries and non-governmental partners to share their thoughts to ensure their ideas are considered when shaping the BIOPAMA priorities for this region.

Stefano Cilli, representative of the EU Delegation in Kingston, gave remarks on behalf of the Head of Delegation of the EU. The EU and its Member States have a long history of supporting the biodiversity conservation efforts worldwide and in this region. With the BIOPAMA programme being one of the largest contributions, Mr Cilli expressed the EU's continuous support for this programme and welcomed IUCN, EC-JRC and UWI's partnership for the BIOPAMA implementation.

Following these greetings the IUCN and the UWI officially signed the Implementing Partner Agreement signalling the continued collaboration of the implementing partners.

3   BIOPAMA Programme Overview

The morning session on day 1 focused on orienting participants to the BIOPAMA Programme and in particular the Action Component. In the overview of BIOPAMA, Hyacinth Armstrong-Vaughn (IUCN) identified the key components through which the programme would be implemented i.e. the Caribbean Gateway, the Reference Information System (RIS) and the Action Component. The building of effective partnerships and networking were also highlighted as additional key elements for the successful implementation of BIOPAMA. It was noted that professionals working in the marine environment are very well organised in the region and are ably supported by the Caribbean Marine Protected Areas Management (CaMPAM) Network. However, it was not clear if the professionals working in the terrestrial environment were connected in a similar fashion. Since BIOPAMA supports both terrestrial and marine areas, there has been and continues to be interest by the programme in identifying and/or supporting a network of professionals working in landscapes. Dr. David Yawson, Senior Lecturer at the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) at the UWI has started the quest to create this network.

4   Action Component

Anna Rosenberg (IUCN) provided an overview of the Action Component. This session was of great interest and resulted in valuable discussion and feedback as participants sort clarity and expressed concern on the proposed selection process and time frame for implementation of projects; and offered suggestions and best practices based on experience regarding how to implement, monitor and evaluate the action component.

Specific comments, questions, and recommendations are summarised as follows:
- The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) representative highly recommended using mentors to support the development of proposals as local groups will not likely have the ability to do so on their own.
- Concern was expressed by the ACP Secretariat representative that the application process presented was complicated and would put smaller agencies, with limited capacity at a competitive disadvantage to larger agencies with greater capacities to the extent the smaller ones could be eliminated from accessing the grants.
- The Nature Conservancy (TNC) representative gave their experience in implementing two small grants under the Eastern Caribbean Marine Managed Area Network (ECMMAN) project. What worked for them was having in-country coordinators to support Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) and Community Based Organisations (CBOs) in developing and writing the proposals and also in implementing the grants. They also noted that the process of implementing the Action Component will have to be adaptive because in their case they thought they would have two calls for proposals but this didn't happen due to differing capacities within NGOs and CBOs to develop a good proposal, and countries moving at different speeds in the development and implementation phases resulted in significant time being taken up. They also noted that they utilised existing national committees, e.g. Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme (GEF SGP) technical committees to screen their submissions prior to review by their regional advisory group. This greatly supported the approval process and also ensured that proposals submitted by an NGO/CBO had the endorsement of the government agency responsible for managing the area.

- Concerning the development of the Operation Manual, it was recommended that consideration be given to the review of the document by entities from the region with previous grant making experience so that they could identify challenges and provide solutions that can be taken into account prior to final approval of the document.
- Regarding the anticipated time frame from call of proposals to implementation of proposals, IUCN noted that the first call for proposals is tentatively scheduled for September 2018; and sufficient time needs to be given for the development of the concept note, which in previous cases was approximately 3 months. The following phase i.e. the development of the full proposal should move quicker, however, IUCN preferred to refrain from giving a specific time for moving from call to implementation.
- A participant gave their experience with the grant call process for the Biodiversity and Information for Development (BID) under the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), which was similar to that outlined for the Action Component. They recommended that consideration be given to allocating sufficient time (>2 months) to the development of the full proposal to facilitate the time it takes, within the government system especially, to acquire the necessary approvals.
- With respect to the process IUCN noted that within it there is some flexibility i.e. in deadlines, approaches, documents requested, templates, and forms. Outside of doing a call for proposals no other process has been identified or considered. IUCN also noted that the specificities associated with a particular region will need to be brought in at the level of the design of the Operation Manual.
- Technical capacities may exist within an entity to carry out the process but time and sufficient funding resources within an entity to support proposal development may be limited and will have to be dealt with. Consideration needs to be given at the "Capacity Building workshop" stage of the process to having potentially more than one person from the IUCN regional office team provide support to entities for developing the proposal and also to having funding available as well. In the case of GEF SGP, they provide funding to applicants to support the development of the proposals and this has been quite successful.
- Further endorsement was given to the idea of using national or local entities to support potential grantees in the development of their proposals. The work currently being done by the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF) with the National Conservation Trust Funds (NCTF[1]) being set up in 8 of the countries is meant to provide support to countries on designing and distribution of grants on the ground.
- It was also highlighted that coordination with other small grants in the region e.g. Caribbean & North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems (CLME+) project and CBF's Ecosystem-based Adaptation regional small grants, needs to be considered so as not to burden the potential grantees the Action Component is aiming to help.
- The question of match funding was raised as it can be a limiting factor for some entities to be able to access the grants. It was noted that for medium sized grants (<€400,000), five percent (5%) of co-financing is required. For grants up to <€100,000 no co-financing is required.
- Genuine concern was expressed about the relatively short time available within the overall programme for the implementation of this component, especially if meaningful impact is to be achieved.

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[1] NCTF – These are being established in Antigua & Barbuda, The Bahamas, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

- One participant thought that the process was very well thought out and the interventions provided by the participants can certainly help improve those steps that are tricky, e.g. in the area of technical reviews, where interventions outside of the process can make it lengthy or cause delays. Skilful staff is also required to ensure the process moves smoothly and is expedited where necessary.
- It was also noted that everyone is mindful of this EU intervention and want to see it work. However, consideration needs to be taken of the fact that within countries there are rules for procurement of equipment, personnel, etc., that take time and could delay the implementation process. Sufficient time therefore needs to be given for implementation.
- IUCN indicated that the rules of implementation will be in the templates of the grant agreements. There is a procurement policy which is not very prohibitive. Rules on travel, per diems, etc. will also be part of the grant agreement. The grant agreement template will be part of the manual and therefore available for everyone to peruse. Consideration is also being given to piloting a simplified option of the implementation process.
- Given the potential challenges that may occur based on internal country procedures it was wondered if the operational guidelines for this Action Component could positively influence in anyway, the internal country processes to minimise delays in grant implementation. IUCN noted that it will not be appropriate for them to interfere with internal country matters. However, there are normally not many mismatches between what this process is asking and what government is asking to significantly impact the implementation process.

The next steps for the development of this aspect of the BIOPAMA programme would be the hiring of the IUCN project officer to oversee the management of this component, the development of the operation manual, approval of the operation manual by the Programme Steering Committee in July, the development of the online infrastructure to support the management of the component, and the first call for proposals. There will be a dedicated online platform that will contain all the necessary information for the proponents of the Action Component i.e. instructions, guidelines, templates, frequently asked questions that will be updated regularly and there will be a help desk (regional or at headquarters) to support responses to proponents questions. Submission of the concepts will be done online with a time stamp. In exceptional cases where there is remote access to internet, submission by email will be considered. The time stamp is important in terms of traceability and the fairness and equal treatment in the process. Every proposal will have its own dedicated space; the rights of access are defined and restricted to protect the confidentiality of the proponents and to make the process as equitable as possible. On the home page of the BIOPAMA website there is a tab called Funding, which will support the dissemination of information on this component. Persons are invited to subscribe so they can receive alerts as the roll out of the Action Component proceeds.

The ACP Secretariat representative made some final points. The first is that more thought needs to go into making the application process and the online system presented flexible and fair enough to ensure that local NGOs and entities with lower capacities are able to compete with international agencies and those with greater capacities. He is concerned that when the call is circulated online international NGOs will receive it faster than local entities who may hear about it after it has filtered through the government agencies. He sees this as being unacceptable and requests that more thought be put into making the

process fair for the 37 SIDS that are meant to benefit from this component. Regarding the operation manual he sought clarification on whether a draft will be submitted to the EU and ACP Secretariat for review prior to the project steering committee or if it will be submitted at the project steering committee to be discussed. He noted that careful consideration should be given to all the steps needed to ensure the approval of this document. He also stressed that this new component is a critical one for action oriented interventions. As such it needs to be correct from the beginning and ensuring that there is good balance of all the eligible entities listed accessing funding at some time during this process. If the call for proposals is closed then the ability to build capacity would be lost.

Patrick McConney of CERMES UWI noted that while the Action Component process is led by IUCN, the UWI, as host of the Caribbean Gateway, will have a role to play as well, but this is yet to be defined. He encouraged stakeholders in the room to provide, from the perspective of potential beneficiaries, suggestions and comments on what roles they wish the UWI to play as these should be demand-driven.

A participant suggested that Non-State Actor Advisory Panels, which are umbrella agencies for all NGOs that have been set up in some countries, can be used to support the dissemination of information directly to the NGOs since transmission of information via government agencies can take a lot of time. The colleague from the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Commission noted that many NGOs in the OECS do not have the capacity to begin to access this type of grant funding so consideration needs to be given to what type of support can be provided to them so that they are able to access the grants.

5   National and Regional Conservation and Management Priorities

BIOPAMA's activities are aiming to improve management effectiveness, improve governance of Protected Areas (PAs) and PA systems and improve PA data collection and management. Within this context, discussions in this session focused on identifying areas at national and regional level that support achieving these aims and that should receive support for capacity building and for implementation of interventions on the ground under the Action Component. The following emerged as key areas to focus on at national level:

- Natural disaster preparation and response – in light of the devastating hurricanes Maria and Irma participants noted the need to build capacity and provide access to tools for conducting rapid assessments post disaster; build capacity to restore critical habitats through habitat restoration and rehabilitation
- Biodiversity management – build capacity to support surveying, inventorying, conducting assessments and monitoring flora and fauna
- Ecosystem valuations – provide support to carry out economic valuations of resources to inform decisions associated with potential development of an area
- Data management – provide practical guidance on how to identify, collect, store, assimilate and share the data relevant for making management decisions and reporting to multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs); establishing data

collection standards to ensure data is collected at an appropriate level to be useful was recommended
- Sustainable financing – strengthen legislation and building capacity for sustainable financing mechanisms and architecture for PAs; explore alternative revenue streams, e.g. carbon financing
- Livelihood opportunities – build capacity to support identification and enhancement of livelihood opportunities within/around PAs
- Communication, education and outreach strategies – build capacity to support effective communication and education and outreach initiatives

And the regional level:
- Support natural disaster recovery
- Facilitate networking within and between countries for sharing of best practices and fostering collaboration and design on regional conservation plans e.g. with migratory species
- Facilitate harmonisation of data collection across the region
- Provide access to technical experts (open source programmers, web developers, etc.) within the region that can support data management at national level
- Establish a database of regional experts (conservation, biodiversity, legal, etc.) that are available to provide guidance to individual countries on issues relevant to PA management and governance

The BIOPAMA team noted that similar priority setting exercises are being done within the re-profiling exercise for the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) and the Caribbean Community's (CARICOM) development of a Regional Biodiversity Strategy under the ACP MEAs project. As such efforts will be made to share this information and strengthen the relationships with these and other partners who may already be addressing some of these issues identified.

6   Approaches for Improving Governance and Management

BIOPAMA aims to reinforce the management and governance of protected and conserved areas in the 79 ACP countries through better use and monitoring of information and capacity development on management and governance. This session provided an introduction to Protected Area Management Effectiveness (PAME) and the IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas Standard (Green List) which will guide and support the management and governance work done in phase II.

Management Effectiveness
Protected areas have been recognised as the best mechanism for biodiversity conservation and global commitments have been made to protect 10% of marine areas and 17% of terrestrial areas through protected areas. Protected areas are faced with many pressures, threats, and resource deficiencies that make their management and ensuring they are going in the right direction very challenging. Management effectiveness has evolved to provide direction for the management of protected areas. It is the assessment of how well a protected area is being managed – primarily the extent to which it is protecting values and achieving goals and objectives. For this process to be applicable it is important to know the values, goals and objectives of the protected area, and if the protected area is delivering those results and desired outcomes. Management effectiveness, through a structured process, allows the description and documentation of

this. The history and evolution of management effectiveness was shared and participants were encouraged to review the two publications that were produced to understand the strides that were made in the development of the framework. The first edition is available [here](#) and the 2nd edition is available [here](#). Twelve years have passed since the last publication and an update is required to capture the strides that have been made and the lessons learned, including the development of 60+ assessment tools and the Green List. The elements of the management effectiveness framework were outlined and the latest report developed for World Heritage Sites was shared (available [here](#)). It was noted that thousands of site and system level assessments have been done; some countries are using the results, others have discontinued implementation. International donors however remain interested in management effectiveness assessments.

Management effectiveness will be a key element in the implementation of the second phase of BIOPAMA, especially to help inform the implementation of the Action Component. As such, the BIOPAMA Caribbean Team will be assessing what has been done in region related to management effectiveness assessments; facilitating a workshop in June 2018; re-initiating management effectiveness assessments in protected areas (pilots); using the results to improve management; systematically make the management effectiveness assessments available online and for analyses at site, national and regional levels; and facilitating, where applicable the implementation of the IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas Programme.

Participants noted that the Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) scorecard was used for marine protected areas (MPAs) in OECS countries for baseline and for repeat assessments and in Belize at the national system level for years. The BIOPAMA team noted that while there are 60+ tools developed, if a country is already using a particular tool to conduct assessments, the programme will respect the country's decision to use that tool. No one tools is being promoted above another but in order to get a regional picture, documentation is needed, as an assessment and the results can be aggregated at the level of the six elements used in the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) framework.

IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas (Green List)
In the context of the BIOPAMA Programme the Green List is being promoted as the standard to which managers should aim as they work on improving the governance and management of their protected areas. The Green List programme aims to increase and recognize the number of Protected and Conserved Areas globally that are fairly governed, effectively managed, and achieving their conservation outcomes. The Green List received endorsement in the form of a decision at the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) COP-13 which invites Parties to "promote the IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas as a voluntary standard to encourage protected area management effectiveness". It achieves quality through and supports the application of IUCN's best practices and knowledge products. The process and steps for implementing the Green List were outlined along with the value derived by implementing this initiative. The connection between the Green List and BIOPAMA was outlined as well. Specific links were made to how the RRIS can support Green List sites and vice versa. The opportunity that the Action Component presents for helping sites move towards being Green Listed was also highlighted.

The presentation was well received and one participant noted it was a great idea. However, PAs in the Caribbean don't have funds to do basic PA functions and will require a level of sustained financing to be able to implementing the Green List process. Therefore incorporating ideas for how to generate sustainable funding was recommended. Deviah Aiama (IUCN) acknowledged this as a valid point and noted that IUCN is trying to raise funds globally to support sites that commit to the Green List process. It was also noted that the first steps in the Caribbean will be to promote general understanding of management effectiveness by sites and support its implementation. Once this has gained traction then it will be easier to move towards the Green List Standard.

7   Communications and Visibility

The BIOPAMA communication team took the opportunity to share the communication work of the programme and explore more meaningful ways to engage the region's stakeholders. The team noted that the BIOPAMA programme can support the development and dissemination of local, national and regional stories to a wider audience through the various tools that are at its disposal. One such tool is the Protecting the Planet Newsletter which reaches over 13,000 persons and uses the themes of Inspiring Places, Inspiring Peoples and Inspiring Solutions to tell stories of biodiversity conservation work taking place across the globe. An Inspiring Person story from the Caribbean was highlighted as an example that was shared via this particular communication medium. The *PANORAMA: Solutions for a Healthy Planet* platform was also highlighted as a mechanism that is available to support the dissemination of success stories or Inspiring Solutions. A demonstration of this platform was provided just after lunch on March 7th and participants were encouraged to contribute to it. The suite of communication tools used overall in the programme was shared. The list is quite extensive primarily because of the global nature of the programme and the need to reach a wide, broad group of stakeholders. The communication team reaffirmed their support to the participants and the stakeholders in the region in compiling and disseminating their stories, since they may not always have the capacity and/or time to do it themselves.

The communication plans for the Caribbean were then shared which include promoting and increasing the visibility of the Caribbean Gateway and the support it's aiming to provide in the compilation of data and application of tools and information in decision making. A communication strategy and plan has been developed for the Caribbean Gateway and the key messages that will be communicated via the various tools available are as follows:
● The formulation of better policies and management decisions for national and transboundary systems of PAs through the analysis and visualisation of spatial and temporal data, can lead to improved social, economic and environmental outcomes.
● The Caribbean Gateway can facilitate collaboration/networking between scientists and decision-makers in the development of best practices in biodiversity and protected area management.
● The Caribbean Gateway can provide access to tailored tools for cross-sectoral planning and negotiations, which can support better data management through the development of standards-based data access and visualization applications.
● The financial and human resource burden of data management and analysis to facilitate national reporting for domestic use and for the CBD can be more widely shared

The tools to be used were highlighted and include those available through IUCN and the UWI e.g. newsletters, websites, UWI TV, etc.

The session closed with participants providing feedback on where they get their information from, what they consider are the most effective tools of communication to engage them with, and how the programme can engage with them going forward. The FAO representative noted it is important to know who the target audience is for the messages to be shared. In their experience in Trinidad they conducted a Knowledge, Aptitude and Practice (KAP) Study to determine the best way to communicate with their various stakeholders. Of the 5000+ surveys conducted the results showed that the majority preferred face to face engagement. The practitioners and managers preferred short video clips with effective messages. Stakeholders in rural communities where the band width prohibited the download of materials preferred paper products e.g. newspapers, physical newsletters, etc., and the radio. As a result, their means of communication has had to evolve to utilise a variety of mechanisms to ensure all stakeholders are reached. The TNC also shared their experience in the ECMMAN project where there was a major communications component to support changing perceptions, practices, etc. They also used KAP surveys at the beginning and the end to determine if progress was made.

Regarding the Yammer platform, one participant noted that the content shared is useful even though most of it is not focussed directly on the BIOPPAMA programme. The challenge faced is the absence of sufficient time to review all the interesting information that is posted. JRC noted that the platform is useful but needs to be re-organised and fine-tuned. Participants were encouraged to provide ideas on ways to improve the site for their purposes and interests. The CaMPAM Network Coordinator noted that Yammer was useful to her; it's a good source of information that she is able to review, mine, and re-disseminate to her network. One participant wanted to know if Yammer can facilitate cross-posting to other media outlets e.g. Facebook. JRC noted there are tools to facilitate this but exactly how it is done needs to be explored to minimise the cross posting of non-relevant messages.   Another participant highlighted the usefulness of the Yammer platform in sharing resources that they are now using in their work. They suggested probably having a headline style feature, similar to twitter, for those who are unable to read through all the content.

The second and final day of the meeting focused on the data management aspects of the programme and aimed to demonstrate the relevance of the Caribbean Gateway in supporting improved biodiversity conservation and protected areas management in the Caribbean. The day opened with presentations on the World Database of Protected Areas (WDPA) and Protected Planet provided by the United Nations Environment Programme-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) followed by a comprehensive review of the Reference Information System (RIS) and the Caribbean Gateway by JRC and the UWI.

8   WDPA, Protected Planet, RIS and Caribbean Protected Areas Gateway

The WDPA, a joint initiative between the IUCN and the UN Environment, is the only global authoritative database on terrestrial and marine protected areas. The UNEP-WCMC is

responsible for compiling and managing this database in collaboration with governments and NGOs. The purpose of this presentation was to orient participants to the relevant areas of UNEP-WCMC's work i.e. WDPA, the Protected Planet and the Global Database on PAME (GD-PAME), demonstrate their value and reflect on the role the Caribbean Gateway will have in improving the compilation of regional information to feed into the WDPA, thereby raising the profile of the region at the global level through UNEP-WCMC's mandate.

With respect to the Caribbean region, UNEP-WCMC gave a breakdown of the information contained in the WDPA, noting that frequency of updates ranged from 1986 to 2018; completeness of descriptive information was biased; and there was an overall concern as to whether the information represented was still accurate. The status of compiling information for the GD-PAME was also provided with information from 12 of the 15 BIOPAMA countries either pending or not available. UNEP-WCMC noted that it was challenging to engage with the region because focal points change and UNEP-WCMC has limited time and resources to effectively engage. The Caribbean Gateway is well placed to address these challenges as it will have better knowledge of appropriate contact points; be able to

Figure 1: Proposed data flow

better integrate into regional networks; be able to have more frequent and continuous lines of communication; and be more available to discuss and solve national and regional problems. Figure 1 shows the proposed interactions between the data providers, the Caribbean Gateway and the UNEP-WCMC that would help improve the current representation of the Caribbean in the WDPA.
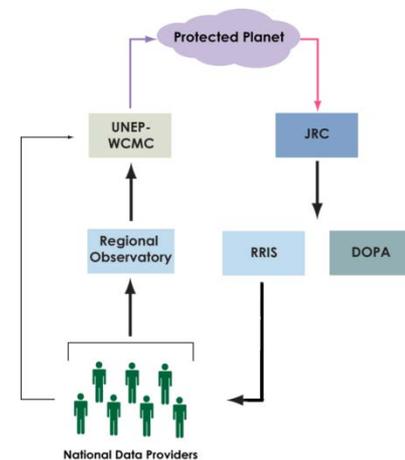
The JRC followed on from the WCMC presentation with an overview of the RIS. The RIS is a dedicated information system focused on the protected areas of the ACP and supports the operations of the Caribbean Gateway. The various system functions of the RIS, which include connect, contribute, explore, analyse and learn, were reviewed. The RIS is an open platform, designed to link to other datasets and platforms. It is driven by regional needs and is improving databases at global, regional, national and site level for marine and terrestrial ecosystems. It has the same architecture across the ACP, but has customised content and interfaces that are supporting the move from data to analysis, from knowledge to action at the regional level.

The UWI closed this series of presentations with a comprehensive look at the Caribbean Gateway. The overall aims of the Caribbean Gateway include improving decision making, overcoming the challenge of insufficient data and building capacity to improve the overall management and governance of protected areas. The role of the Technical Officer was explained and the Caribbean Gateway platform (http://caribbean-rris.biopama.org) was reviewed. The Caribbean Gateway is linking data to better decisions and while there is a wealth of ecological information available, there are still gaps in socioeconomic and governance and management data to be resolved. The Caribbean Gateway hopes to employ CREWs which are credible, reliable, energetic, willing persons within country that will work with the Caribbean Gateway to identify and update the required data in the Caribbean Gateway. The GeoNode component (http://geonode-rris.biopama.org) of the

Caribbean Gateway was also highlighted as well as the services to be provided which include development of tools and analyses, capacity building, reporting, supporting the Action Component and providing data storage, back up and publishing. Overall, the Caribbean Gateway will focus on improving decision making, addressing key issues such as incorporating national and regional datasets into the regional RIS (RRIS); facilitating data sharing, open data and improving data flows; and building and strengthening relationships and networks.

The discussion that followed sought to clarify the mechanisms the Caribbean Gateway would use to get stakeholders to contribute and to safeguard the information shared. It was noted that persons would be willing to contribute once they could see the value of their contribution. The issue of nationally sensitive data was raised especially in the context of data related to the location of species that are vulnerable to international trade. It was noted that while it is desirous to have data be open access, certain safeguards are needed to secure sensitive types of information. As such, data sharing agreements are needed between the Caribbean Gateway and data providers and RRIS needs to have features built in that support differing levels of security access to information.

9   Regional Data Management Initiatives

The management of biological and socioeconomic data and information in the Caribbean is being addressed by several initiatives all aiming in some way to support policy and decision making. Since these general aims align with those of the BIOPAMA programme, representatives from each initiative were invited to give an overview of their work. The BIOPAMA programme, through the Caribbean Gateway, has and will continue to explore the opportunities to work and integrate with these various initiatives.

Socio-economic Monitoring for Coastal Management (SocMon)
- Global initiative for establishing site level socio-economic and marine monitoring programmes
- Regional nodes exist in Brazil, Caribbean, Central America, South Asia, Southeast Asia, Pacific Islands and Western Indian Ocean
- Caribbean node is based at the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) in the UWI, Cave Hill Campus in Barbados
- Goals and objectives for monitoring include enhancing management capacity of diverse coastal stakeholders; assessing MPA management effectiveness; developing socio-economic fisheries-related profiles; demographic data collection in coastal communities; informing fisheries and MPA management plans
- SocMon guidelines and manuals have been developed that provide details on the methodology and the variables that can be used for assessing and monitoring sites. The information for the assessments is collected by survey and non-survey methods

- A spatial element has recently been integrated into SocMon i.e. SocMon spatial that utilises participatory Geographic Information System (pGIS)

Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN)-Caribbean

- An open and growing network of coral reef scientists and managers involved in coral reef monitoring in the Wider Caribbean region
- It aims to support the Cartagena Convention, which is managed by the United Nations Environment Caribbean Environment Programme (UNEP-CEP), by ensuring the collection of useful, comparable and accessible data that can effectively reveal the status and trends of the coral reefs in the region, for regular, robust and strategic reporting to influence coastal management decision-making at the regional and national levels
- It is implemented by the Regional Activity Centre of the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife Protocol (SPAW-RAC)
- Data collection focuses on biophysical and socioeconomic information and regional guidelines are being developed to support the data collection process
- The network is working to promote the implementation of the regional guidelines in the field through integrated capacity building training workshops; continuing to promote harmonized data collection through the implementation of the regional guidelines; working on the standardization of data analysis and reporting within the region

CaMPAM MPA Database

- Created by the UNEP-CEP in the mid 2000s
- Provides a snapshot of information in 4 categories (geographic, legal, physical and management) for 320 MPAs
- No spatial or temporal information
- Some information has been integrated to the WDPA but no formal links exist yet with the Caribbean Gateway
- Recently evaluated the usefulness of the database and identified the need for improvements in the areas of user friendliness, no. of fields, data updating; relevance for decision making on large area management; management resources and cooperation with relevant databases

CaribNode

- An online decision support system created by TNC to support planning and management of key marine natural resources in the Caribbean

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- Brings together the best available data and offers dynamic dashboards, maps and report cards
- Represents socioeconomic, coral reef ecosystems and management effectiveness information in coral reef report cards
- Working on improving representation on habitat mapping, protected area boundary mapping and protected area management effectiveness visualisation

Ecosystem-Based Management – Decision Support System (EBM DSS)
- An initiative of the UNEP-CEP funded by the Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development that has resulted in the development of a DSS for marine managed areas using the EBM approach. The tool is meant to be used by governments to assist in making decision on coastal resources using the EBM approach.
- CERMES at the UWI is the regional node with responsibility for promoting the implementation of this tool in for the English-speaking Caribbean through the "Biodiversity for Sustainable Development in the Caribbean through Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM)" project
- The tools is an Integrated Spatial Planning (ISP) 5.0 software package that is desktop-based, utilises a user interface and is simple enough to be used by non-technical and non-scientific person
- Elements of the tools methodology support the development/updating of management plans, gap analysis, stakeholder identification and analysis, cataloguing, monitoring and evaluation, and scenario analysis
- The regional node is working on establishing a directory of EBM experts; developing small-scale pilot applications, developing templates for replication and identifying concept for further application of the tool

Atlas of Living Caribbean
- Developed under the regional BID project of Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago and Barbados
- It is a biodiversity portal that replicates the structure of the Atlas of Living Australia and is being developed to support the management of biodiversity information for the project countries.
- Types of information to be stored include species, locations, museum collections, ecosystem related (protected areas, marine, riverine systems)
- The information being compiled for each country varies but the Atlas will support specialised searches, area searches and dataset searches. Specialised searches will cover broad categories of conservation, species in use and pest and vectors. For example in the area of conservation, searches can be conducted on threatened species, nationally protected species, introduced and Invasive Alien Species and Endemic Species

10 How can the Caribbean Gateway support country needs and requirements for data sharing, reporting, infrastructure, etc.?

It was noted that in order to have all aspects of the Caribbean Gateway be relevant and useful, a clear understanding of users' needs is required. Participants were asked to consider their current situations and identify real cases they are involved in that would

require them to go to the Caribbean Gateway for data that they can use to develop a product that their director or minister will need to make a decision. One participant reiterated the need to have comprehensive assessments done in the wake of natural disasters that determine how much area has been devastated and forest/mangrove cover is lost. Having access to this type of information is attractive to governments as it enables them to request and leverage funds and resources to help with rebuilding, restoring and conserving areas.

In the case of Trinidad and Tobago only 2 out of 42 sites have management plans. Under the *Improving Forest and Protected Area Management in Trinidad and Tobago* project, which is establishing 6 additional sites, a lot of ecological and socioeconomic data is being collected for which monitoring needs to continue after the project ends. This will be captured in the monitoring programme component of the management plans being developed. The Caribbean Gateway could assist and help guide the development of these monitoring programmes so that they are simple and cost effective enough to be implemented by community groups and PA staff after the programme ends and still be useful. It was also noted that in terms of ensuring that data captured in large projects such as this is processed into a usable format consideration should be given to budgeting within the project proposal for resources to support data processing. Consideration should also be given to the development of data standard templates that would be useful guides for countries in advancing this aspect of work.

Following on the point related to communities, it was noted that linking with communities who are in the protected areas is important because they can support not only data collection but regular monitoring. Building capacity at the local level for data collection and monitoring needs to be addressed and also ensuring that the results of their data collection and monitoring feeds back to them is important. Further to this, translation of the data collected can be used to support overall education of the public. Environmental education is a huge component of PA management but time is not taken to translate the results of the work being done to inform constituents of the ecosystem services and anticipated results that protection brings. In the absence of effective legislation to help protect a site it is civil society that can help you keep or lose what you are protecting.

The question of how do you convince governments to keep protected areas protected was raised by Suriname where concessions are given for mining in the buffer zones of protected areas. Participants suggested looking at ecosystem valuation and considering avenues for non-invasive ways to make money from these protected spaces (blue/green economy) as two ways to convince them. They also noted that communities that are in these areas can help convince governments by being very vocal and advocating for the value of the ecosystem to them and their livelihoods. Generally how we operate in each country is different but BIOPAMA can provide the platform for sharing ideas and best practices that can be useful across all areas. Evidence based decision making is always a request of OECS member countries, so it is necessary to ensure that good quality, defensible, rigorous information is available through the Caribbean Gateway to strengthen and justify our positions.

Another question was raised as to whether the Caribbean Gateway can support a regional metadata database for relevant data at national level? It was noted that tools are needed to support the development of good metadata not just compliant metadata and within BIOPAMA open source standards for spatial information are utilised. However, the

BIOPAMA team will have to look at what standards can be developed for the other types of records e.g. biodiversity.

Data sharing is possibly the biggest challenge that exists within the region. From previous discussions it was noted that the region is data rich but data sharing poor. This is a challenge that exists at the national level as data sharing across agencies does not occur very easily in some countries. This lack of sharing can also affect the quality of data that the Caribbean Gateway gets as some agencies may have low capacity for spatially representing their data so that it is useful for the Caribbean Gateway. It was noted that the Caribbean Gateway can encourage and support countries to share data across national agencies so that where limited capacity exists in one e.g. with respect to GIS, another agency that is strong in this area can work with the data to ensure it is good and useful for inclusion in the Caribbean Gateway.

In the case of Belize, from a marine point of view, a group that shares data on spawning aggregations, conchs, lobster, commercial species and coral exists. They have a memorandum of understanding amongst themselves and the data is housed within University of Belize's Environmental Research Institute (UBERI). Healthy Reefs which is within the Smithsonian Institute has the healthy reef healthy people initiative and they produce the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef Report Card. They have access to the data that resides at UBERI. UBERI has now positioned itself as the host of national data for Belize through a BID grant. The Caribbean Gateway can explore collaborating with the UBERI regarding relevant data for Belize.

The Environment Information Management and Analytical System (EIMAS) exists in Antigua and Barbuda to support the development of a national resource inventory that is required under the environmental legislation passed in 2015. Several mechanisms are in place to assist the data collection process, including using students and applications under the Nagoya Protocol. The details that will facilitate the sharing of information in the EIMAS are being defined.

Another area in which improvement is needed in terms of data collection is in ecosystem valuation because most persons do not value their resources unless they can associate a dollar value to them. If persons can actually see the opportunity cost of losing that ecosystem then there is greater motivation to increase their efforts to preserve that ecosystem. This area was noted as a management priority for the region.

Participants stressed that data gathered by the Caribbean Gateway should be linked to getting the countries ready to complete reports to the MEAs. In the case of Trinidad and Tobago, a State of Environment report is within the legislation and is meant to build information to support the production of the MEA reports but this process is not happening. So some attention should be given to identifying the needs of the governments in this area and providing the necessary support to help them accomplish their reporting obligations.

Conflict management within and around protected areas is a challenge to which the application of socioeconomic monitoring has been useful as it helps identify those areas of potential conflict and strategies can then be identified to deal with them. The Caribbean Gateway has started exploring how to integrate socioeconomic assessments

and associated information given that Caribbean SocMon operates within the same institution (CERMES). This will be advanced in earnest during this phase of BIOPAMA.

11   BIOPAMA linkages with International and Regional Policies and reporting processes

This session built on the previous discussion on how the Caribbean Gateway can support country needs and requirements and began identifying how BIOPAMA can support countries in their reporting to the international agreements. There are many elements to be considered in this exercise including knowing what reporting is needed at the national and regional level and how these processes can be streamlined to feed into reporting at the global level. As such from the BIOPAMA perspective a better understanding of what types of information should be collated via the Caribbean Gateway, how it should be collated, what are the barriers for collating and what are the capacity gaps for collating this data at the national level is required.

The presentation given provided an overview of the reporting elements at the global level starting with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (in particular Goals 14 and 15), the strategic plan for biodiversity and its associated relevant Aichi Targets (11 and 12) and identifying the various conventions (Ramsar, Climate Change, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, etc.) which have included in their reporting responses to the biodiversity strategy. The elements being considered for the global policy framework post-2020 were also highlighted, along with an assessment of countries' progress towards achieving Target 11 that was done by the CBD. The ultimate goal is to develop a policy calendar that identifies those regionally and internationally relevant events that are ultimately data gathering exercises that the programme and by extension the stakeholders need to be mindful of. One participant stressed the importance of developing this calendar because they were perusing the CBD site and came across a meeting for Latin America and Caribbean on Indigenous Knowledge and as the CBD Focal Point for that area in their country they were not aware of the meeting.

12   State of Protected Areas Report

The aim of this session was to sensitise the stakeholders to the State of Protected Areas (SoPA) Report, one of the key deliverables of the programme, as their contributions from the national level will be needed, via the Caribbean Gateway, to support the production of the report. It was noted that a few reports are produced within the region i.e. the State of the Convention Area Report (SoCAR) produced periodically for the Cartagena Convention, the FAO's Forest Cover report produced less frequently and the State of Conservation Report produced for individual World Heritage Sites. Prior to the BIOPAMA programme, the WCPA was interested in producing a state of protected areas report for the Caribbean but the financial resources were unfortunately not available. The opportunity now exists to produce this regional report which can inform the global community of what is happening regionally with respect to protected areas and put into perspective for the region all the work that has and is happening in and around protected areas.

Preliminary discussions with a small group of regional stakeholders were held in 2016 – 2017 to address the report's objectives, its geographic scope, and available resources to support report development from other initiatives. At that time programme resources

were limited and non-existent from external sources so production of the report was postponed. Two SoPA reports are expected to be produced during the life of the programme. The proposed report objectives are:

- To provide an overview of the status of protected areas in the Caribbean region, with special reference to issues of particular relevance to the region
- To provide an overview of the region's progress towards the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 of CBD
- To analyse and highlight protected area issues of particular relevance to the region

The desired outcomes are:

- A better understanding of successes and key challenges the region is facing and how to address them
- Facts and figures required by governments to make informed decisions, track progress and provide guidance for implementation of Aichi Target 11
- Higher profile of the value of regional data management systems, including the BIOPAMA-supported observatory now referred to as the Caribbean Gateway

The target audience for the report will include donors and international environmental conventions at the global level; and decision makers within governments, professionals, practitioners, academia at the regional level. A draft outline of the report was shared and the following issues to be considered in the report's development were discussed.

Geographic scope and financial resources – the focus for BIOPAMA is the member states of the ACP and so the first report will most likely focus on these countries. However, the Caribbean is more than the ACP member states and includes Overseas Territories and Central American countries bordering the Caribbean Sea. As such future reports will need to consider including these countries which then requires additional financial resources to support the production of a truly regional report.

Alignment with existing regional reports – there are many reports currently being produced under regional programmes and initiatives i.e. the State of the Convention Area, State of Marine Habitats, State of Coral Reefs, State of the Marine Ecosystems and Associated Economies, and the CARICOM Biodiversity Outlook. The SoPA report needs to be aware of the information covered in these reports that can be used in the SoPA and on the reverse side ensure its content complements these reports.

The next steps towards the development of this report will be to identify a team that will oversee the production elements of the report e.g. review and redefine report content, review alignment with existing reports, identify contributors, etc.

Participants noted the report is a good effort and will expand and extend the knowledge of our protected areas. TNC is willing to collaborate on the development of the SoPA report and indicated that the coral reef report cards produced under the ECMMAN project could be integrated into the SoPA because their production process included involvement of regional networks such as GCRMN-Caribbean and presents a lot of useful information in an easily digestible, attractive format. Regarding geographic scope, it was noted that it would not be a good idea to exclude part of the Caribbean for such an important report and as such collaborations within the IUCN family and other agencies should be explored to support full regional coverage of the report. For the format of the report consideration

should be given to producing it at two levels – a concise version for decision makers and top management and a more detailed document (>100 pages). In terms of timing the first report should be completed by the end of 2019 and a second one by the end of the programme. It was suggested that case studies and short stories can be used to showcase common issues, good practices and solutions, etc.

13   Closing Remarks

The BIOPAMA team expressed thanks and appreciation to the participants for taking time to fully engage in this two day meeting and provide invaluable contributions to help define the implementation of phase II. It was noted that within the areas identified for prioritisation there were strong coincidences of issues related to data management and sharing that are at the heart of the programme. The BIOPAMA programme will not be able to address all of the priority areas directly but will aim to collaborate with partners in the region who are working on these issues to ensure the needs are addressed. Participants were encouraged to make use of the Caribbean Gateway to help them address the needs they expressed so clearly over the two days. The BIOPAMA team will continue to utilise the resources at its disposal to work with and support all stakeholders directly and through various national, regional and international fora.

ANNEX 1 – MEETING PARTICIPANTS

Name	Organisation	Country
Amanda Acosta	Belize Audubon Society	Belize
Deviah Aiama	IUCN	Switzerland
Natasha Ali	IUCN	United Kingdom
Yvonne Arias	Grupo Jaragua	Dominican Republic
Hyacinth Armstrong-Vaughn	IUCN	Barbados
Elise Belle	UNEP-WCMC	Belgium
Neila Bobb-Prescott	FAO	Trinidad and Tobago
Roxana Bucioaca	IUCN	Belgium
Georgina Bustamante	CaMPAM	USA
Ronald Cademus	Fondation pour la Protection de la Biodiversite Marine (FoProBiM)	Haiti
John Calixte	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Physical Planning, Natural Resources and Co-operatives	Saint Lucia
Victoria Cawich	Forestry Department	Belize
Stefano Cilli	EU Delegation	Jamaica
Shermaine Clauzel	Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA)	Saint Lucia
Sherry Constantine	TNC	Grenada
Jose Courrau	IUCN	Costa Rica
Marcia Creary Ford	UWI Mona	Jamaica
Odacy Davis	Protected Areas Commission	Guyana
Suzanne Davis	Clearing House Mechanism, Natural History Museum of Jamaica	Jamaica
Nayari Diaz	Protected Areas Commission Trust (PACT)	Belize
Augustine Dominique	Department of Sustainable Development	Saint Lucia
Josette Edward-Charlemagne	OECS Commission	Saint Lucia

Name	Organisation	Country
Domenique Finegan	IUCN	Costa Rica
Michael Fung	IUCN	Costa Rica
Soledad Gaztambide-Arandes	Para la Naturaleza	Puerto Rico
Mariagrazia Graziano	JRC	Italy
Tricia Greaux	Department of Marine Resources	St. Kitts & Nevis
Carmel Haynes	IUCN	Barbados
Maria Pia Hernandez	IUCN	Costa Rica
Sixto Inchaústegu	Grupo Jaragua	Dominican Republic
Edmund Jackson	ACP Secretariat	Belgium
Helena Jeffrey-Brown	Environment Division	Antigua & Barbuda
Jodi Johnson	UNEP-CEP	Jamaica
Jeantel Joseph	L'Agence Nationale des Aires Protégées	Haiti
Vanessa Kadosoe	National Zoological Collection of Suriname	Suriname
Alexandra Karekaho	UN Environment Caribbean Sub-regional Office	Jamaica
Richard Kinlocke	UWI Mona	Jamaica
John Knowles	TNC	USA
Edward Lewis	UNEP-WCMC	United Kingdom
Toa Loaiza Lange	Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales	Dominican Republic
Tricia Lovell	Fisheries Division	Antigua & Barbuda
Ava Maxam	Mona Geo-informatics – UWI	Jamaica
Patrick McConney	UWI CERMES	Barbados
Karen McDonald-Gayle	Caribbean Biodiversity Fund	Jamaica
Leon Merlot	AT B4life UE	Bolivia

Name	Organisation	Country
Maureen Milbourn	National Environment & Planning Agency (NEPA)	Jamaica
Stephen Peedell	JRC	Italy
Jose Perez	Association of Protected Areas Management Organizations (APAMO)	Belize
Bheshem Ramlal	UWI, St. Augustine	Trinidad & Tobago
Allison Rangolan	Environmental Foundation of Jamaica	Jamaica
Terry Raymond	Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, Physical Planning and Fisheries	Dominica
Sesar Rodriguez	Consorcio Ambiental Dominicano	Dominican Republic
Joanna Rosemond	Saint Lucia National Trust	Saint Lucia
Bailey Rosen	UNEP Caribbean Sub-regional Office	Jamaica
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Andrew Wilson	National Park, Rivers and Beaches Authority	Saint Vincent & the Grenadines
David Yawson	UWI CERMES	Barbados

ANNEX 2 – REGIONAL MEETING AGENDA
Caribbean Regional Inception Meeting
6-7 March, 2018, New Kingston, Jamaica

Tuesday 6th March, 2018

8:00-9:00	Participant Registration

9:00-9:40	Opening Session
	• **Welcome Remarks**
	    o IUCN
	    o JRC
	    o UWI
	    o ACP Secretariat
	    o EU
	
	• **Signing of partnership agreement between IUCN and UWI**
	
	• **Review and agree Agenda and workshop objectives**
	
	• **Brief participants' introductions**

09:40-10:30	BIOPAMA Programme – Phase II Overview
10:30-10: 50	BREAK (Group Photo)
10:50-12:30	Action Component • **Technical process and requirements** • **Calls for proposals: process to request, review, and agree on projects to be funded under the AC as well as information on project oversight and technical/financial reporting**
12:30-13:30	LUNCH
13:30-15:00	National and Regional Conservation and Management Priorities • Perspectives from national regional initiatives/projects Conservation and management priorities that need to be considered for support through the AC
15:00-15:15	BREAK
15:15-16:30	Approaches for Improving Governance and Management at Multiple Scales • **Management Effectiveness Assessments** • **IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas Standard**

	· Establishing a regional Green List hub in the Caribbean; Appropriate assessment tools
16:30-17:15	Communications and Visibility
19:00-20:30	Welcome cocktails

Wednesday 7th March, 2018

	Data and Information Management
9:00-9:30	· WDPA and Protected Planet
9:30-11:15	· RIS to RRIS - The Caribbean Protected Areas Gateway · Linkages and workflow between the RRIS and WDPA in terms of data collection, management and assessments
11:15-11:30	BREAK

11:30-13:00	· Regional Data Management Initiatives
	   o SocMon
	   o GCRMN-Caribbean
	   o CaMPAM Database
	   o CaribNode
	   o EBM DSS
	   o Atlas of Living Caribbean

13:00-14:00	LUNCH
14:00-14:15	· PANORAMA Solutions demonstration
14:15-14:45	· How can the Caribbean Gateway support country needs and requirements for data sharing, reporting, infrastructure, etc.?
14:45-15:45	BIOPAMA linkages with International and Regional Policies and reporting processes
15:45-16:00	BREAK
16:00-16:30	State of Protected Areas Report
16:30	Closure of Meeting