

# Country CREWs





# CREWs

Credible

Reliable

Energetic

Willing

## CREWs – Rationale

- Effective conservation/ management/ decision and policy making

- ▶
  - pertinent and up-to-date data/information/knowledge
  - reside within countries, but disaggregated
    - Government organisations
    - Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)
    - Community-Based Organisations (CBOs)
    - academic/research organisations
    - funding agencies
  - such organisations rarely work together or even collaborate
    - to formulate the ‘big picture’ which is needed for effective conservation, management and decision making

## CREWs – Rationale

- Caribbean Protected Areas Gateway needs eyes and ears on the ground in country
  - Consisting of persons
    - Government organisations (including statistical offices)
    - Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)
    - Community-Based Organisations (CBOs)
    - Academic/research organisations (data collection agencies)
    - Funding agencies
    - Youth (CYEN)
    - National Focal Points (CBD, WDPA and PAME)
    - Regional Organisations (OECS)

## CREWs – Benefits

- better networking, collaboration and sharing of data/information/knowledge within and across countries
- minimisation of duplications of efforts and better utilization of limited resources
- increased opportunities for accessing funding, trainings etc.
- better representation of protected area information (especially at local and national levels) on the Caribbean Gateway and WDPA
- development of tools and analyses needed to support improved natural resource management and governance
- easier tracking of progress made towards international, regional, national and even local conservation targets
- more informed decision and policy making
- easier fulfilment of Multilateral Environmental Agreement (MEA) reporting obligations (e.g. NBSAPs and National Reports)

## CREWs – Functioning

- completely voluntary
  - involvement in the biodiversity and protected areas arena
  - a sense of stewardship
  - the potential benefits to be had
- provide accurate, up-to-date data (ecological, socioeconomic and governance) on protected areas and other recognised, managed conservation areas within a country (data profile)
- provide advice on the functionality and usefulness of the proposed re-design of the Caribbean Gateway interface/platform
- identify management capacity gaps and areas in which training and capacity building are needed
- identify tools and analyses currently utilised or in need of development
- periodically monitor the content published on the Caribbean Gateway to ensure information is indeed accurate and up-to-date
- identify success stories to be shared regionally
- BIOPAMA Yammer platform will be utilised to create a virtual space for members of country CREWs to be able to network, communicate, collaborate, share ideas etc.

# Process

- ToR created to share with key potential CREW members (key persons from a cross section of agencies)
- Key biodiversity and PA related organisations (contact persons within said organisations) as well as IUCN member organisations and CBD focal points identified
- ToR disseminated via email to key organisations and persons (October 2018 - March 2019)
- Country groups created on Yammer, to provide a virtual space, and persons expressing interest added.

# Process

- WDPA country data profiles downloaded, made electronic to be shared with country CREWs to be updated
- A more comprehensive PA data profile developed to capture pertinent information, data and documents from CREW members
- Comprehensive PA data profile filled in for countries to highlight what is currently being presented, gaps and discrepancies among data sources



## CREWs – Key initial tasks

- completion of the data profile
  - national and site level
  - ecological
  - socioeconomics
  - governance and management
- redesign of the Caribbean Protected Areas Gateway platform to be fit-for-purpose
- contribution to the State of Protected Areas Report (SoPA)
- EBM self-assessments
- Investigate the decision making environment