

Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Projects and Initiatives in the Caribbean

Title: Integrating Watershed and Coastal Area Management in Caribbean Small Island Developing States (GEF-IWCAM)

Organisation: Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA)

Aims and Objectives:

The overall objective of the project was to strengthen the commitment and capacity of the participating countries (Jamaica, Cuba, Bahamas, Dominican Republic, St Kitts, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago) to implement an integrated approach to the management of watersheds and coastal areas. The long-term goal was to enhance the capacity of the countries to plan and manage their aquatic resources and ecosystems on a sustainable basis.

In particular, project activities were focused on improvements in integrated freshwater basin-coastal area management on each island of the regional groupings of Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Key project components include:

- Demonstration, Capture and Transfer of Best Practices
- Development of IWCAM Processes, Stress Reduction and Environmental Status Indicators Framework
- Policy, Legislative and Institutional Reform for IWCAM
- Regional and National Capacity Building and Sustainability for IWCAM

Duration: Start Year: 2004 Completion Year: 2011

Additional Comments:

Estimated Cost (USD): \$22 million

Funding Source: Global Environment Facility (GEF)

Contact Information: Dr. Christopher Cox, Programme Manager/Technical Coordinator, Caribbean Public Health Agency, St. Lucia; **Telephone:** (758) 452 2501 ext 230; **Email Address:** **Web Address:** <http://www.cehi.org.lc/>; <http://www.carpha.org/>

Key Words: Integrated Management; Watersheds; Coastal Areas; Water Resources; Caribbean

Geographic Coverage: The Bahamas; Cuba; Dominican Republic; Haiti; Antigua and Barbuda; Jamaica; St Kitts and Nevis; Barbados; Grenada; Dominica; St. Lucia; St. Vincent the Grenadines; and Trinidad and Tobago.

Sectoral Focus: Community level Stakeholders; Government Organisations involved in Watershed Management, Tourism, Planning; Coastal Areas Management Committees; and NGO's dealing with Watershed Management and Sanitation.

Target Beneficiaries: Watershed Managers; Planners; Agricultural Extension Officers; Farmers; Coastal Managers; Fishing Industry; and Communities

Outputs:

- Execution of all ‘demo’ and ‘pilot projects’
- Dissemination of results-locally and regionally
- Sharing of experiences (workshops and exchange visits)
- Various communications media (experience notes, bulletins, and Caribbean Waterways Newsletter) used to disseminate information to other participating countries
- Establishment (including capacity building) of the IWCAM process, stress reduction and environmental status indicator monitoring system in one country using new templates
- Indicators framework developed and pilot-tested in Barbados
- Water Resource Information Management System developed and tested in Barbados
- Toolkit for Institutional, Policy, and Legislative Improvements aimed at fostering the IWCAM approach in Caribbean SIDS
- Policy reforms based on the IWCAM framework in several countries
- Several countries completed IWRM Plans and Roadmaps
- St. Kitts and Nevis passed legislation establishing a National Park in order to protect the Basseterre Valley Aquifer
- Several countries ratified the LBS Protocol, enabling it’s coming into effect
- 12 national workshops on awareness and multi-sectoral sensitization to IWCAM issues
- Significant amount of guidance documents and technical materials (e.g. Legislative Toolkit, Policy Briefs, Indicator Mechanism and Capacity Assessment, & the Community Tools for Managing Land and Water Resources in the Caribbean) were produced
- System for information gathering at national level established and stored at various locations
- CHM established and managed by CAR-RCU
- GEF-IWCAM effectively established linkages with various partners (GIZ, CWWA, CAWASA, GWP-C and OECS).
- IWRM Informal Working Group absorbed into a Consortium on Water
- GEF-IWCAM supported the convening of meetings of the Consortium & supported the convening of High Level Sessions of CARICOM Ministers with responsibility for water resources.
- Training and education activities initiated as part of demonstration projects
- Two media sensitization workshops convened
- A regional strategy (CarIWEco) for the sustainable promotion and implementation of IWCAM beyond the project lifetime established.

Project Links and References:

<http://iwcam.org/>

Impacts:

http://www.unep.org/eou/Portals/52/Reports/MCZ_IWCAM_TE_ExecSummary.html

http://www.unep.org/eou/Portals/52/Reports/MCZ_IWCAM_TE_Lessons.html

http://www.unep.org/eou/Portals/52/Reports/MCZ_IWCAM_TE_Recomm.html

http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/gef_prj_docs/GEFProjectDocuments/M&E/TER/FY2012/UNEP/G001254/Commentary_of_IWCAM_TE.docx

Sustainability:

Information not available

Lessons for the Future:

Information not available

Opportunities Arising from the Project:

Information not available

Further Comments:

The GEF-IWCAM project produced an array of review and lessons learned documentation, including: an overall lessons learned report, review reports for each of the demonstration projects and a terminal evaluation report. Each of these is easily accessible from the IWCAM website. This shows that beyond the life span of the project lessons have been documented and are available to support those planning future work programmes, and to decision makers more broadly. This documentation and dissemination of lessons learned is a valuable resource and the region would benefit from replicating GEF-IWCAM in this respect.