

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

**Title:** Testing a Prototype Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management (CReW)

**Organisation:** United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Caribbean Regional Coordinating Unit (CAR/RCU)

### **Aims and Objectives:**

The Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management (CReW) seeks to provide sustainable financing for the wastewater sector, support policy and legislative reform and foster regional dialogue and knowledge exchange among key stakeholders in the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR).

The project objectives are:

1. Establishing innovative financing mechanisms for cost-effective and sustainable financing of wastewater management in the WCR
2. Improving national and local capacity for wastewater management through strengthened policy, institutional & legislative frameworks
3. Facilitating regional dialogue and knowledge exchange with the key stakeholders in the WCR

**Duration:** Start Year: 2011 Completion Year: 2015

**Additional Comments:**

**Estimated Cost (USD):** \$271,000,000 (GEF contribution of \$20 million)

### **Funding Source:**

- Participating national governments
- Global Environment Facility (GEF),
- Inter-American Development Bank (IDB),
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

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**Key Words:** Wastewater Management; Financing; Caribbean; Capacity development; Legislative reform

**Geographic Coverage:** Countries of the Wider Caribbean: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Panama, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.

**Sectoral Focus:** Wastewater

**Target Beneficiaries:** Wastewater Managers, Policymakers

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### **Outputs:**

Project outputs are:

Component 1 – Investment and Innovative Financing for Wastewater Management (US\$ 15.073 M)

- (i) The capitalization of four individual Pilot Financing Mechanisms (PFMs) that will provide and test pilot financing modalities for wastewater management projects;
- (ii) Project Development Support (PDS) to provide technical assistance; and
- (iii) Strengthening the technical capacity at the pilot level.

Component 2 – Reforms for Wastewater Management (US\$ 2.500 M)

- (i) Capacity Building - Policy and Institutional Strengthening
- (ii) Capacity Building – Legislative Reform
- (iii) Capacity Building – Awareness Raising

Component 3 – Communications, Outreach and Information Exchange (US\$ 0.710 )

- (i) Project Documentation Development and Training - addresses activities related to the dissemination of information related to the CReW to counterpart agencies, implementing partners, related programs.
- (ii) Integrated Information Management System will also share project information and results through the GEF International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network.

### **Project Links and References:**

<http://gefcrew.org/>

<http://iwlearn.net/iw-projects/3766/outreach-materials/gef-crew-caribbean-regional-fund-for-wastewater-overview-of-project-components>

### **Impacts:**

Information not available

### **Sustainability:**

Information not available

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### **Lessons for the Future:**

Emerging challenges in implementing the project, based on material in [IWLEARN presentation](#):

- Impact of political cycle – creating delays in decision making affects rate of project implementation (Guyana, Belize & Jamaica all have had elections since project commencement)
- Capacity issues in PEAs (delays in hiring people & operational activities)
- Extended mobilisation period minimizes time to demonstrate project results (Component 1) – 6 months has turned into 9 to 10 months
- Extent of time requirements for engineering studies (feasibility studies, procurement requirements and construction/works activities may hind project outcome
- Engagement private and public sector in WWM (treatment and financing)
- Resources – needed to contribute to addressing issues in Non pilot countries – limited and potentially can affect the level and extent of engagement at the country/regional levels (Components 2 & 3)
- Develop ‘products’ in two main languages – resource limitations
- Managing stakeholder expectations (while maintaining engagement) within project budgetary constraints
- Continued engagement of stakeholders

### **Opportunities Arising from the Project:**

Information not available

### **Further Comments:**

Information not available