## Wider Caribbean Region

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1 About

1.1 Overview

UNEP’s Wider Caribbean region includes 28 island and continental countries. It encompasses both tropical and sub-tropical ecosystems, from coral reefs to mangrove forests to sea-grass beds, each with its unique wildlife. Protecting these habitats demands that coastal economies be sustainable, allowing growth while protecting the region’s natural resources.

In 1976 UNEP was urged to launch the Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP), an unparalleled joint endeavour, which embraces the region’s diversity in its efforts to advance economic prosperity and environmental health. Laying the groundwork for the CEP, the governments identified a number of pressing issues: land-based sources of municipal, industrial and agricultural wastes and run-off (which account for as much as 90% of all marine pollution); over-exploitation of resources such as fish, molluscs and crustaceans; increasing urbanization and coastal development as populations and economies expand; unsustainable agricultural and forestry practices (many say Central America’s forest are disappearing faster than anywhere else in the world); and a profound need to strengthen government and institutional capacity to address environmental problems.

In 1981 the Caribbean Action Plan was adopted at the First Intergovernmental Meeting held in Montego Bay, Jamaica. Twenty-two States in the Caribbean adopted the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme. The Wider Caribbean Region comprises the insular and coastal States and Territories with coasts on the Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico as well as waters of the Atlantic Ocean adjacent to these States and Territories. The Plan outlines programmes of assistance, institutional strengthening, and technical co-operation, and in 1983 led to the adoption of a legal framework – the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention). This entered into force on 11 October 1986 and is facilitated by the Regional Coordinating Unit (CAR/RCU). Three protocols on oil spills, specially protected areas and wildlife, and pollution from land-based sources and activities supplement the Convention. Today the activities of the CEP focus mainly on implementation of the protocols, on information management and exchange, and on environmental education and training.

Work is also under way to reduce polluted run-off to the Caribbean Sea through workshops, production of guidelines and integrated management plans, control of sewage, and adoption of national contingency plans for marine emergencies. The region’s network of parks and protected areas is continually being strengthened, and a small grants fund is providing assistance to marine protected areas.
### 1.2 Key Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>Intergovernmental Conference for Rational Use and Conservation of the Biosphere (UNESCO) was held. This provided a forum for early discussion of the concept of ecologically sustainable development. In addition, the United Nations General Assembly authorized the Human Environment Conference to be held in 1972.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>The United Nations Conference on the Human Environment was held in Stockholm under the leadership of Mr Maurice Strong. This led to the formation of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).</td>
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<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>UNEP initiated the Regional Seas Programme, an action-oriented programme for the control of marine pollution and protection and management of the marine and coastal environment.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>This year UNEP was urged to launch a Regional Programme for the Wider Caribbean Region and the Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>A draft Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme was prepared.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>The Caribbean Action Plan was adopted at the First Intergovernmental meeting held in Montego Bay, Jamaica. Twenty-two States in the Caribbean adopted the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme, covering the insular and coastal States and Territories with coasts on the Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico as well as waters of the Atlantic Ocean adjacent to these States and Territories.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>The Second Intergovernmental meeting took place in Cartagena, Colombia. At this meeting, the legal framework for CEP was adopted: The Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention) was approved and the Protocol concerning Co-operation in Combating Oil Spills in the Wider Caribbean Region was added to the Convention (Oil Spills Protocol).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>The Cartagena Convention and the Oil Spills Protocol entered into force. The Caribbean Environment Programme was facilitated by the Regional Coordinating Unit (CAR/RCU) located in Kingston, Jamaica. The CAR/RCU continues to serve as Secretariat for CEP and the Cartagena Convention. CAR/RCU is under the administration of the UNEP Headquarters in Nairobi (UNON).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>The Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) Protocol was adopted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>The Land-Based Sources of Marine Pollution (LBS) Protocol was adopted.</td>
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1.3 Geographic and General Information

**Region:** Wider Caribbean, Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP)

**Participating States:** Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Netherlands Antilles, Nicaragua, Panama, St Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago, United States of America, Venezuela, European Commission, United Kingdom, and France (29 states and territories plus the EU).

**Sea Area:** Each member state has an Economic Exclusive Zone of 200 n miles.

**Total Length of coastline:** 55,383 km.

**GIWA Subregion 3 and 4:** Caribbean Sea

**Large marine Ecosystem:** #12 Caribbean Sea

**Marine Protected Areas:** 96 MPAs and 58 other coastal areas within the Wider Caribbean region (Stanley, 2003)

1.3.1 Oceanographic Information

The region has a continuous flow of water through the area from east to west in the Caribbean Sea, followed by a movement from the south-east to north-east in the Yucatan Basin and finally in the Gulf of Mexico, a strong flow to the east again through the Straits of Florida, after an anticyclonic movement of most of this water is in the western area of the Gulf (UNEP, 1984). Because most of the marine plants and animals in the Caribbean have a planktonic larval phase lasting from several weeks to more than a year and the propagules are carried long distances by the east-west current, the homogeneity of the species associations is striking in these waters (Stanley, 2003). The surface temperature in the tropical parts of the region has an average value of about 27°C and does not vary considerably throughout the year (UNEP, 1984). The holds true for the southern most part of the Gulf of Mexico. However, its northern part shows extreme seasonal changes in temperature from 16°C in winter to 28°C in summer, so that during winter months there is a latitudinal gradient (UNEP, 1984). There is a distinct seasonal variation in salinity of the Caribbean. The high salinities between January and May (maximum 36.5‰) are regularly followed by lower salinities between June and December (minimal 34.5‰) (UNEP, 1984).

1.3.2 Coastal Geography and Geology

The Wider Caribbean is a semi-enclosed body of water consisting of several deep basins separated by major sills (UNEP, 1984). The deepest point, 7,100 m is the Cayman Trench and the average depth is approximately 2,200 m (UNEP, 1984). The Caribbean is characterised by high biological productivity along the coasts (providing rich feeding grounds for fish near coral reefs, sea-grass beds and mangroves), but low productivity in the deep ocean regions. It includes both tropical and subtropical waters, with Cape Hatteras forming the northern limit of tropical fauna. Most island and mainland coastlines drop precipitously to depths of 2,000 metres within a few kilometres of shore, although there are substantial shallow water areas in Belize, Cuba, and most notably in The Bahamas. Thus, the total area of coastal waters (shallow water less than 200 metres deep) on which humans are most dependent for food and the zone most susceptible to human influence is relatively small. There is little mixing between the warm surface water and the deeper cold waters (Stanley, 2003).
The northern boundary of the Caribbean plate is aligned east-west, essentially parallel with the direction of movement of the plate, creating the Cayman Trough in the northwest and a zone of folding and thrust faulting to the northeast at Hispaniola. Stresses along the northern plate boundary have caused uplift in many of the islands and subsidence in some areas, resulting in exposure of marine limestones, reefs and terraces on land in many areas. The eastern boundary of the Caribbean plate is a subduction zone that creates an accretionary sediment pile. The island of Barbados, for instance, is a ridge of deformed sediment extending above the sea surface. The Lesser Antilles, formed by subduction activity from the collision of the Caribbean and Atlantic plates, are volcanic islands, some on coral platforms and others with high, volcanic mountains (Stanley, 2003).

1.3.3 Ecosystem Diversity

The marine seascape of the Caribbean supports a complex interaction of three distinct ecosystems: coral reefs, mangrove stands, and sea-grass beds. It is commonly accepted that the tropics are much richer in diversity of species than colder regions (UNEP, 1984). However, certain factors limit the offshore ecology of the offshore seas. Firstly the Caribbean region lacks an extensive, shallow continental shelf. Secondly, water temperatures do not fluctuate over a wide range so there is a relatively stable thermocline, which indicates lack of mixing of surface and deep waters. The result is a restricted nutrient supply which is reflected in the limited fishery in offshore areas (UNEP, 1984).

1.3.3.1 Coral

Coral reef faunas are the most diverse in the world in terms of higher taxonomic variety, built by corals and algae they support a variety of sponges, sea whips, sea anemones, worms, tube worms, shrimps, crabs, lobsters, snails, clams, starfish, brittle-stars, feather-stars, sea urchins, sea cucumbers and fish. About 14 per cent of the area of the world's coral reefs are found in the region (Stanley, 2003). Fringing and patch reefs are the most common around islands, on the side facing the prevailing winds. Of note are the long barrier reef system off Belize (approximately 220 km) and the Andros barrier reef (approximately 176 km) in The Bahamas (UNEP, 1984; Sonjah Stanley, 2003). Bank or bank-barrier reefs are moderately common (Stanley, 2003). Atoll-like structures are found in Belize, The Bahamas, and Colombian waters. Small atoll-like reefs, more commonly known as basin or cup reefs, are found in Puerto Rico, Bermuda, and off the coast of Mexico (Stanley, 2003).

1.3.3.2 Mangrove Forests

In the Wider Caribbean mangroves are found on almost every coastline, although there are wide variations in mangrove coverage depending on the geographic characteristics of each island or continental area. Low-relief coastal plains with ample freshwater inflows foster the most complex and largest forests. The most impressive forests are found along the coasts of Central and South America and the Greater Antilles, which have extensive river systems. In the Eastern Caribbean, steep shorelines, limited freshwater runoff of low dry islands, and exposure of a large portion of the shorelines to powerful waves impose limits on mangrove development. Of the true mangrove species occurring in the Wider Caribbean, red (Rhizophora mangle), black (Avicennia germinans) and white (Laguncularia racemosa) mangroves are the most widely distributed (Stanley, 2003). Depending on the environment
where they develop, mangroves can grow into trees taller than 40 m (such as those in the estuary of the Rio San Juan in Venezuela) or can remain scrubby growth of only 1-2 metres in marginal environments. Several proposed reserves in Martinique, Antigua and Barbuda feature some of the largest unspoiled mangrove stands in the eastern Caribbean (Stanley, 2003). Of the largest islands, Cuba has the largest mangrove coverage, estimated at 4,000 km², with trees reaching 25 m in height. Along the coasts of Belize and Guatemala, mangroves, sea-grasses and coral reefs are intimately linked in what is considered the largest continuous reef in the Caribbean (Stanley, 2003).

1.3.3.3 Seagrass Beds
Both mangroves and sea-grasses show similar distribution patterns as related to generic richness, with the Caribbean being one of the areas of greatest diversity. In the Greater Caribbean, sea-grass meadows are usually composed of turtlegrass (*Thalassia testudinum*) which is the dominant species. They are coated with numerous epiphytes, both microscopic and macroscopic and are interspersed with other sea-grasses such as *Halodule wrightii* and *Syringodium filiforme* and major benthically rooted algae like *Halimeda*, *Penicillus*, *Udotea*, *Rhipocephalus*, and *Caulerpa* (Stanley, 2003). The sea-grass beds stabilize bottom sediments that could otherwise damage corals. They contribute to the retardation of coastal erosion and provide grazing for sea turtles, manatees, fish and invertebrates (Stanley, 2003).

1.3.4. Other Ecosystems
Coastal lagoons are an important mainland feature in the Wider Caribbean region. Common to many islands are salinas, or shallow tidal ponds. Both systems protect reefs by trapping sediments, serve as nursery areas for fish, and provide wetland habitats for birds, crocodiles and manatees (Stanley, 2003).

1.3.4 Species Diversity

1.3.4.1 Invertebrates
A wide range of invertebrates are found in the region including jellies, lamp shells, sponges, molluscs and crustaceans, chordates, sponges, echinoderms, arthropods, coelenterates, and bryozoans.

1.3.4.2 Fish
The Caribbean supports a diverse range of fish species from tropical coastal species to pelagic and benthic species. Reefs play a major role in supporting the artisanal fisheries of many island and mainland states in the region. The main fisheries throughout the region are of small pelagics (menhaden, flyingfish, mackerel), large pelagics (tuna, billfish and shark), reef fish (snapper and grouper), coastal demersal fish (drum, weakfish, croaker), crustaceans (shrimp, lobster, crab) and molluscs (oyster, scallop, and conch). Under-utilized resources include cephalopods (squid and octopus), small pelagics, deepwater shrimp, and deepwater snapper.
1.3.4.3 Reptiles
Turtle species found in the region include the green, hawksbill, Kemp's and olive Ridley, leatherback, Central American River and loggerhead. The largest turtle nesting areas are in Surinam, but occur all over the region. Crocodiles, including the Spectacled Caiman, Brown Caiman and the American Crocodile, are found in the region. Many island wetlands house-breeding populations. There are also several species of iguanas in the region. Rock Iguanas found include Allen's Cay, Andros Rock, Bertsch's Rock, Crooked/Acklins, San Salvador, Central Exuma and White Cay Iguanas.

1.3.4.4 Birds
Various species of waders and seabirds make their home in the Wider Caribbean region. One species of shearwater, two of petrels, two tropic birds, one pelican, one frigate, three boobies, eight terns, one gull, numerous egrets, herons and flamingos, and many species of migratory waders (shorebirds).

1.3.4.5 Mammals
The West Indian Monk Seal used to breed on Jamaican offshore cays throughout the Caribbean. The last sighting of this extinct species was in Jamaican waters. The West Indian Manatee is at home in wetlands and shallow seas primarily in the Greater Antilles and coastal areas of the continents (Stanley, 2003). Sperm whales (mother and calf groups) have been sighted in Dominica, St. Vincent and Grenada, however, more research needs to be done to confirm that these are in fact the same animals. According to IFAW research, they are in the region all year round. Humpbacks, orcas, bryde's, pilots and dolphins, such as spotted, spinners, bottlenose, Risso's, and Frasers and also some beaked whales, false and pygmy filler whales and pygmy sperm whales have also been sighted.

1.3.5 Information on Participating States

1.3.5.1 Antigua and Barbuda
Total population: 68,000 (CIA, 2003)
GDP per capita (PPP US$), 2001: 10,170 (HDR, 2003)
Total sea area: contiguous zone: 24 n miles, territorial sea: 12 n miles, exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles, continental shelf: 200 n miles or to the edge of the continental margin
Length of coastline: 153 km
Marine Protected Areas: 2 MPAs and 1 other coastal area (Stanley, 2003)
- Nelson's Dockyard National Park
- Palaster Reef Marine National Park
- Salt Fish Tail Reef (Diamond Reef) Marine National Park

1.3.5.2 Bahamas

**Total population:** 300,000 (CIA, 2003)
**GDP per capita (PPP US$), 2001:** 16,270 (HDR, 2003)
**Total sea area:** exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles, territorial sea: 12 n miles
**Length of coastline:** 3,542 km
**Marine Protected Areas:** 9 MPAs (Stanley, 2003)
- Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park
- Inagua National Park
- Union Creek Reserve

Existing MPAs that Require Management Support
- Black Sound Cay National Park
- Conception Island National Park
- Lucayan National Park
- Pelican Cays Land and Sea Park National Park
- Peterson Cay National Park
- Union Creek (within Inagua NP) Managed Nature Reserve

Proposed new MPAs
- Andros Barrier Reef


1.3.5.3 Barbados

**Total population:** 278,000 (CIA, 2003)
**GDP per capita (PPP US$), 2001:** 15,560 (HDR, 2003)
**Total sea area:** exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles, territorial sea: 12 n miles
**Length of coastline:** 97 km
**Marine Protected Areas:** 1 MPA and 1 other coastal area (Stanley, 2003)

Existing MPAs that Require Management Support
- Barbados Marine Reserve


1.3.5.4 Belize

**Total population:** 266,000 (CIA, 2003)
**GDP per capita (PPP US$), 2001:** 5,690 (HDR, 2003)
**Total sea area:** exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles, territorial sea: 12 n miles in the north, 3 n miles in the south; note - from the mouth of the Sarstoon River to Ranguana Cay, Belize's territorial sea is 3 n miles
**Length of coastline:** 386 km
**Marine Protected Areas:** 2 MPAs (Stanley, 2003)
- Marine/coastal sites with an active TNC (The Nature Conservancy) presence in the region:
  - Maya Mountain/marine

Existing MPAs that Require Management Support
- Half Moon Caye National Monument

1.3.5.5 Colombia

Total population: 42 million (CIA, 2003)
Total sea area: continental shelf: 200-m depth or to the depth of exploitation territorial sea: 12 n miles, exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles
Length of coastline: 3,208 km (Caribbean Sea 1,760 km, North Pacific Ocean 1,448 km)
Marine Protected Areas: 6 MPAs and 1 other coastal area (Stanley, 2003)
Existing MPAs that Require Management Support
- Santuario de Fauna y Flora Cienaga Grande de Santa Marta
- Reserva Natural Haines Cay to Cotton Cay
- Parque Nacional Natural Isla de Salamanca
- Santuario de Fauna y Flora Los Flamencos
Marine/coastal sites with an active TNC (The Nature Conservancy) presence
- Sierra Nevada
- Utría


1.3.5.6 Costa Rica

Total population: 4 million (CIA, 2003)
GDP per capita (PPP US$), 2001: 9,460 (HDR, 2003)
Total sea area: continental shelf: 200 n miles, exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles, territorial sea: 12 n miles
Length of coastline: 1,290 km
Marine Protected Areas: 4 MPAs (Stanley, 2003)
Existing MPAs that Require Management Support
- Refugio de Vida Silvestre Barra del Colorado
- Parque Nacional Cahuita
- Parque Nacional Tortuguero
- Refugio Nacional Vida Silvestre Gondoca Manzanillo
Proposed New Marine Protected Area
- Tortuguero/Miskito Marine System


1.3.5.7 Cuba

Total population: 11 million (CIA, 2003)
GDP per capita (PPP US$), 2001: 5,259 (CIA, 2002)
Total sea area: exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles, territorial sea: 12 n miles
Length of coastline: 3,735 km
Marine Protected Areas: 15 MPAs and 15 other coastal areas (Stanley, 2003)
Existing MPAs that Require Management Support
- Baconao
- Parque Nacional Marino Bahía del Naranjo
- Cayo Blanco de Casilda
1.3.5.8 Dominica

Total population: 70,000 (CIA, 2003)
GDP per capita (PPP US$), 2001: 5,520 (HDR, 2003)
Total sea area: contiguous zone: 24 n miles, territorial sea: 12 n miles, exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles
Length of coastline: 148 km
Marine Protected Areas: 1 MPA (Stanley, 2003)
   Existing MPAs that Require Management Support
   • National Park Cabrits


1.3.5.9 Dominican Republic

Total population: 9 million (CIA, 2003)
Total sea area: contiguous zone: 24 n miles, territorial sea: 6 n miles continental shelf: 200 n miles or to the edge of the continental margin, exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles
Length of coastline: 1,288 km
Marine Protected Areas: 7 MPAs and 4 other coastal areas (Stanley, 2003)
   Marine/coastal sites with an active TNC (The Nature Conservancy) presence
   • Jaragua
   • Parque del Este

Existing MPAs that Require Management Support
   • Santuario de Fauna Banco de la Plata
   • Reserva Scientifica Natural Lagunas Redonda y Limon
   • Parque Nacional Los Haitises
   • Parque Nacional Del Este
   • Parque Nacional Jaragua
   • Parque Nacional
   • Parque Submarino La Caleta
   • Parque Nacional Monte Cristi

1.3.5.10 Grenada

Total population: 90,000 (CIA, 2003)
GDP per capita (PPP US$), 2001: 6,740 (HDR, 2003)
Total sea area: exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles, territorial sea: 12 n miles
Length of coastline: 121 km
Marine Protected Areas: None known (Stanley, 2003)

1.3.5.11 Guatemala

Total population: 14 million (CIA, 2003)
GDP per capita (PPP US$), 2001: 4,400 (HDR, 2003)
Total sea area: continental shelf: 200-m depth or to the depth of exploitation, exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles, territorial sea: 12 n miles
Length of coastline: 400 km
Marine Protected Areas: 2 MPAs (Stanley, 2003)
   Existing MPAs that Require Management Support
   • Punta de Manabió Biotopo
   • Parque Nacional Rio Dulce

1.3.5.12 Guyana

Total population: 700,000 (CIA, 2003)
Total sea area: continental shelf: 200 n miles or to the outer edge of the continental margin exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles, territorial sea: 12 n miles
Length of coastline: 459 km
Marine Protected Areas: None known (Stanley, 2003)

1.3.5.13 Haiti

Total population: 7.5 million
GDP per capita (PPP US$), 2001: 1,860 (HDR, 2003)
Total sea area: contiguous zone: 24 n miles territorial sea: 12 n miles, continental shelf: to depth of exploitation, exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles
Length of coastline: 1,771 km
Marine Protected Areas: None known (Stanley, 2003)
1.3.5.14 Honduras

**Total population:** 6.6 million (CIA, 2003)
**GDP per capita (PPP US$), 2001:** 2,830 (HDR, 2003)
**Total sea area:** contiguous zone: 24 n miles territorial sea: 12 n miles, continental shelf: natural extension of territory or to 200 n miles, exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles
**Length of coastline:** 820 km
**Marine Protected Areas:** 4 MPAs and 1 other coastal area (Stanley, 2003)
  
  Existing MPAs that Require Management Support:
  
  - Biosphere Reserve Rio Platano (Marino)
  - Parque Nacional Turtle Harbor


1.3.5.15 Jamaica

**Total population:** 2.6 million (CIA, 2003)
**GDP per capita (PPP US$), 2001:** 3,720 (HDR, 2003)
**Total sea area:** exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles territorial sea: 12 n miles continental shelf: 200 n miles or to edge of the continental margin contiguous zone: 24 n miles
**Length of coastline:** 1,022 km
**Marine Protected Areas:** 4 MPAs (Stanley, 2003)
  
  - Middle Morant Cay NR/SciR Nature Reserve
  - Ocho Rios Protected Area
  - Montego Bay Marine Park
  - SE Pedro Cay NR/SciR Nature Reserve


1.3.5.16 Mexico

**Total population:** 104 million (CIA, 2003)
**GDP per capita (PPP US$), 2001:** 8,430 (HDR, 2003)
**GDP per head (US$) (US$):** 8,430 estimated (US 37,600)
**Total sea area:** contiguous zone: 24 n miles territorial sea: 12 n miles, exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles, continental shelf: 200 n miles or to the edge of the continental margin
**Length of coastline:** 9,330 km
**Marine Protected Areas:** 7 MPAs and 1 other coastal area (Stanley, 2003)
  
  Existing MPAs that Require Management Support:
  
  - Parque Submarino Cozumel
  - Res. Ecologica Isla de Contoy
  - R.B. Sian Ka’an (not sure why not Res. Biologica)
  - Res. Ecologica Rio Lagartos
  - Looe Cay National Marine

1.3.5.17 Netherlands Antilles

**Total population:** 200,000 (CIA, 2003)
**Total GDP:** purchasing power parity - $2.4 billion (CIA, 2002)
**Total sea area:** exclusive fishing zone: 12 n miles territorial sea: 12 n miles
**Length of coastline:** 364 km
**Marine Protected Areas:** 4 MPAs and 3 other coastal areas (Stanley, 2003)

- Proposed New Marine Protected Areas:
  - Barbuda


1.3.5.18 Nicaragua

**Total population:** 5 million (CIA, 2003)
**GDP per capita (PPP US$), 2001:** 2,450 (HDR, 2003)
**Total sea area:** continental shelf: natural prolongation, territorial sea: 200 n miles
**Length of coastline:** 910 km
**Marine Protected Areas:** None known (Stanley, 2003)

1.3.5.19 Panama

**Total population:** 2 million (CIA, 2003)
**GDP per capita (PPP US$), 2001:** 5,750 (HDR, 2003)
**Total sea area:** contiguous zone: 24 n miles, exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles, territorial sea: 12 n miles
**Length of coastline:** 2,490 km
**Marine Protected Areas:** 2 MPAs (Stanley, 2003)


1.3.5.20 St Kitts & Nevis

**Total population:** 39,000 (CIA, 2003)
**GDP per capita (PPP US$), 2001:** 11,300 (HDR, 2003)
**Total sea area:** contiguous zone: 24 n miles, exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles territorial sea: 12 n miles, continental shelf: 200 n miles or to the edge of the continental margin
**Length of coastline:** 135 km
**Marine Protected Areas:** None known (Stanley, 2003)
1.3.5.21 Saint Lucia

Total population: 162,000 (CIA, 2003)
Total sea area: contiguous zone: 24 n miles, territorial sea: 12 n miles, exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles, continental shelf: 200 n miles or to the edge of the continental margin
Length of coastline: 158 km
Marine Protected Areas: 2 MPAs and 1 other coastal area (Stanley, 2003)
- Maria Islands Nature Reserve

1.3.5.22 St Vincent & the Grenadines

Total population: 117,000 (CIA, 2003)
Total sea area: contiguous zone: 24 n miles, territorial sea: 12 n miles, exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles, continental shelf: 200 n miles
Length of coastline: 84 km
Marine Protected Areas: 1 MPA (Stanley, 2003)

1.3.5.23 Suriname

Total population: 400,000 (CIA, 2003)
Total sea area: exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles, territorial sea: 12 n miles
Length of coastline: 386 km
Marine Protected Areas: None known (Stanley, 2003)

1.3.5.24 Trinidad and Tobago

Total population: 1 million (CIA, 2003)
GDP per capita (PPP US$), 2001: 9,100 (HDR, 2003)
Total sea area: exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles, territorial sea: 12 n miles, continental shelf: 200 n miles or to the outer edge of the continental margin, contiguous zone: 24 n miles
Length of coastline: 362 km
Marine Protected Areas: 1 MPA and 7 other coastal areas (Stanley, 2003)
1.3.5.25   Venezuela

Total population: 24.6 million (CIA, 2003)
Total sea area: contiguous zone: 15 n miles, territorial sea: 12 n miles, continental shelf: 200-m depth or to the depth of exploitation, exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles
Length of coastline: 2,800 km
Marine Protected Areas: 8 MPAs and 8 other coastal areas (Stanley, 2003)

1.3.5.26   United States of America

Total population: 290 million (CIA, 2003)
Total sea area contiguous zone: 24 n miles, continental shelf: not specified, exclusive economic zone: 200 n miles, territorial sea: 12 n miles
Length of coastline: 19,924 km
Marine Protected Areas: 6 MPAs and 4 other coastal areas (Stanley, 2003)

Existing MPAs that Require Management Support:
- Florida Keys
- Key Largo National Marine Reserve
- Sanctuary John Pennekamp State Park
- Everglades National Park
- Fort Jefferson National Monument
- Biscayne National Park
- Rockery Bay

1.4 Organization

1.4.1 Institutional Structure

Implementing mechanisms of the Caribbean Environment Programme


Frequency of meetings: Every 2 years
Date and place of last meeting: 28 September – 2 October 2004, Montego Bay, Jamaica
Date and place of next meeting: 2nd semester of 2006, date and venue to be confirmed

Full title: Meeting of the Monitoring Committee on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and Meeting of the Bureau of Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region
Frequency of meetings: Every 2 years (in principle; Decision taken at the 11th IGM to postpone the MONCOM Meeting for 2005)
Date and place of last meeting: 9-13 July 2001, San José, Costa Rica
Date and place of next meeting: date and venue to be confirmed (2007)

Full title: Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean Region
Frequency of meetings: Every 2 years
Date and place of last meeting: 3-6 June 2003, Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles
Date and place of next meeting: date and venue to be confirmed (2005)

Full title: Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean Region
Frequency of meetings: Every 2 years
Date and place of last meeting: 27 September 2004, Montego Bay, Jamaica
Date and place of next meeting: 2nd semester of 2006, date and venue to be confirmed

Full title: Meeting of the Interim Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee (ISTAC) to the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities (LBS) in the Wider Caribbean Region
Frequency of meetings: Every 2 years
Date and place of last meeting: 12-16 May 2003, Managua, Nicaragua
Date and place of next meeting: date and venue to be confirmed (2005)

1.4.3 Bureau of Contracting Parties

The Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention and the Monitoring Committee (Mon Com) on the Action Plan of the Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP) are elected each biennium from among the Contracting Parties to the Convention and CEP Member Governments, respectively. The Chairperson of the two groups is the same. The Bureau and Mon Com meet jointly on the years between the biennial Intergovernmental Meetings of the CEP to supervise the progress of the work plan of the CEP and oversee financial arrangements as necessary. In addition, the Bureau and Mon Com ensure that continuous contact of a technical and programmatic nature are maintained among the experts and institutions involved for the period between the Intergovernmental Meetings. The Bureau and Mon Com also help to prepare the agenda for the Intergovernmental Meetings, review project requests and provide operational and policy guidance to the Secretariat for the implementation of the Action Plan and Cartagena Convention.

Composition:
Members of the MonCom for the period 2004 – 2005 are:

- Venezuela (Chairperson),
- Bahamas,
- Barbados,
- Dominica,
- Dominican Republic,
- France,
- Montserrat, and
- Saint Lucia.

Term expiring: Twelfth IGM in 2006

### 1.4.4 The Coordinating Unit

**Regional Coordinating Unit for the Caribbean (CAR/RCU)**

CAR/RCU is under the administration of the Regional Seas Programme of the Division of Environmental Conventions of UNEP in Nairobi. However, it is also directly responsible to the member Governments of the Wider Caribbean Region. CAR/RCU also organizes meetings of experts, and manages arrangements for the meetings of the Monitoring Committee and Bureau of Contracting Parties and biennial Intergovernmental Meetings. CAR/RCU is also responsible for the preparation of the relevant documents to be presented at these meetings such as: draft agreements, technical and administrative reports and biennial work plans and budgets based on the advice of panels of experts and country proposals (CEP-UNEP, 2003).

**Year established:** 1986

**Headquarters**

UNEP-CAR/RCU

14-20 Port Royal Street

Kingston, Jamaica

Tel.: (876) 922-9267

Fax: (876) –922-9292

E-mail: unepcrju@cwjamaica.com,

Website: [http: //www.cep.unep.org](http://www.cep.unep.org)

**Coordinator**

Mr Nelson Andrade Colmenares

**Staff**

- Mr Luc St-Pierre - Programme Officer – CEPNET
- Mr Christopher Corbin – Programme Officer - AMEP
- Ms Alessandra Vanzella-Khour - Programme Officer - SPAW
- Mr Malden Miller - ICRAN Project Manager
- Ms Heidi Savelli Söderberg – Junior Programme Officer – SPAW
- Ms Camilla Andersson – Junior Programme Officer - AMEP
- Ms Una McPherson – Senior Administrative Assistant
- Ms Lesma Levy – Administrative Assistant
- Ms Coral Portillo – Senior Secretary
- Ms Paulette James-Castillo - Bilingual Secretary
- Ms Brenda Dewdney – Bilingual Secretary
1.4.5 Caribbean Environment Programme

The activities of the CEP focus mainly on implementation of the protocols, on environmental information management and exchange and on environmental education and training.

To date, the CEP's mission of promoting regional cooperation for the protection and development of the marine environment of the Wider Caribbean Region has met with some success. There is still a long way to go towards achieving this vision but efforts must continue in strengthening the region's environmental laws, networks, scientific and technological capacity and public outreach. So far, the major achievements of the CEP have been the establishment of a regional institutional infrastructure and the conducting of scientific studies that will inform the institutional and regulatory changes at both the regional and national levels. The CEP's decision-making mechanisms are well established and they fulfill their task of providing authority and an ongoing review of the Action Plan. The adoption of long-term and short-term objectives has focused the Programme's work, and this work has resulted in increased attention to the marine environment by organizations at the national level.

Memorandum of Co-operation signed to date: Since its inception, the CEP has sought to work with partner organizations sharing similar issues of concern, which provides opportunities for cooperation and partnerships.

- Secretariat of the Basel Convention – MOU signed on July 1, 2004
- IOCaribe of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO – MOC signed on February 25, 2002
- Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar) – MOU signed on May 1, 2000
- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) – MOU signed on March 3, 1997
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) – currently under discussion

There are four sub-programmes of the CEP:

- Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution (AMEP)
- Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW)
- Information Systems for the Management of Marine and Coastal Resources (CEPNET)
- Education, Training and Awareness (ETA)

For further information link to: [www.cep.unep.org](http://www.cep.unep.org).
1.4.6 Regional Activity Centres

1.4.6.1 Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife

Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife in the Wider Caribbean Region (SPAW RAC - Guadeloupe)

Established: 2000
Contact: Maurice Anselme, Director of SPAW-RAC, Stéphane Defranoux, Project Coordinator
Tel. 590 99 35 60
Fax: 590 99 35 65
E-mail: maurice.anselme@guadeloupe.ecologie.gouv.fr or stephane.defranoux@guadeloupe.ecologie.gouv.fr
Website: http://www.cep.unep.org/who/spaw.php

1.4.6.2 Oil Spills

Regional Activity Centre, Regional Marine Pollution Emergency, Information and Training Centre Caribbean (RAC/REMPEITC-Carib) - Curacao, Netherlands Antilles

Established in 1995
Contact: Captain Fitzroy Dorant, Director
Mr. Brian Peter, Senior Consultant
Mr. Gabino Gonzalez, Senior Consultant
Ms. Carla Davelaar, Office Manager/Executive Secretary
Tel. 5999 461 4012 / 5999 461 4409
Fax: 5999 461 1996
E-mail: imoctr@attglobal.net

1.4.6.3 Land-Base Sources of Marine Pollution

Land-Base Sources of Marine Pollution, (CIMAB-RAC, Cuba)
Established in 2002
Contact: Mr Antonio Villasol, Director, Centro de Ingeniería y Manejo Ambiental de Bahías y Costas (CIMAB)
Tel. 537 862 1558
Fax: 537 338 250
E-mail: cimab@transnet.cu
**Land-Base Sources of Marine Pollution, (IMA-RAC, Trinidad & Tobago)**

Established in 2002

Contact:
Ms Hazel McShine, Director, Institute of Marine Sciences
Tel. 868 634 4291/4
Fax: 868 634 4433
E-mail: director@ima.gov.tt
Website: [http://www ima.gov tt](http://www ima.gov tt)

1.4.7 National Focal points

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<tr>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
<th>NAME/TITLE</th>
<th>TELEPHONE/E-MAIL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anguilla</td>
<td>Chief Minister</td>
<td>(1-264) 497-2518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chief Minister’s Office</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rodney.rey@gov.ai">rodney.rey@gov.ai</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Contact:</strong> Mr Rodney Rey, Permanent Secretary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antigua and Barbuda</td>
<td>Ms. Maudlyn Richards, Permanent Secretary</td>
<td>(1-268) 462-1212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Contact:</strong> Mrs. Diann Black-Layne, Chief</td>
<td>(1-268) 462-4625,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Environment Officer</td>
<td>(1-268) 462-0651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:environment@antiguabarbuda.net">environment@antiguabarbuda.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aruba</td>
<td>Mr Augustin Vrolijk, Director</td>
<td>(297) 583-4705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Foreign Affairs Department</td>
<td><a href="mailto:int1717@setarnet.aw">int1717@setarnet.aw</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahamas</td>
<td>His Exc. Mr Frederick Mitchell, M.P.</td>
<td>(1-242) 322-7624/5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Contact:</strong> Dr. Patricia Rodgers, Permanent</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbados</td>
<td>Ms Teresa Marshall , Permanent Secretary</td>
<td>(1-246) 436-2990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>(1-246) 427-0427</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:barbados@foreign.gov.bb">barbados@foreign.gov.bb</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commission of the European Union</td>
<td>Mr John Caloghirou , Head of Division</td>
<td>(1-876) 924-6333-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamaica</td>
<td><strong>Contact:</strong> Amb. Jan Dubbeldam, Head of</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Delegation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commission of the European Union</td>
<td>Mr Claude Pleinevaux, Head of Division</td>
<td>(32-2) 235-5990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brussels</td>
<td>Directorate General XI - Env., Nuclear Civil</td>
<td>/3960/5446</td>
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<td>Protection</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Belize           | The Hon. John Briceño  
Deputy Prime Minister & Minister  
Department of the Environment  
Ministry of Natural Resources, the Environment and Industry | (501) 822-2816  
(501) 822-2542, 2249/2711/2226  
lincenbze@btl.net, envirodept@btl.net |
| British Virgin Islands (Tortola) | Mr Bennett Smith, Permanent Secretary  
Chief Minister's Office | (1-284) 494-3701                                                                 |
| Cayman Islands   | His Exc. Mr Bruce Dunwiddy, Governor  
Office of the Governor  
**Attention:** Mr Kate Joad, Staff Officer to HE the Governor | (345) 949-7900, (345) 244-2434                                                   |
| Colombia         | Sra. Carolina Barco, Ministra de Relaciones Exteriores  
Asuntos Económicos, Sociales y Ambientales Multilaterales  
**Attention:** Dr. Jaime Girón Duarte,  
Viceministro de Asuntos Multilaterales  
**Contact:** Dra. Ma. Andrea Albán,  
Coordinadora Grupo de Asuntos Ambientales Multilaterales | (57-1) 566-7077  
andrea.alban@minrelex.gov.co                                                      |
| Costa Rica       | Sr. Roberto Tovar Faja, Ministro  
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto  
**Attention:** Lic. Carlos Cordero Madrial,  
Jefe de Departamento, Política Multilateral | (506) 223-7555                                                                 |
| Cuba             | Dra. Rosa Elena Simeón Negrín, Ministra  
Ministerio de Ciencia Tecnología y Medio Ambiente (CITMA)  
**Contact:** Dr. Fabio Fajardo Moros, Vice Ministro | (53-7) 670-621  
driacc@ceniai.cu                                                                  |
| Dominica         | The Hon. Osbourne Riviere, Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Office of the Prime Minister  
**Contact:** Mr Steve Ford, Permanent Secretary | (1-767) 448-2401 Ext. 3276                                                        |
| Dominican Republic | Excmo. Lic. Carlos Morales Troncoso, Sr.  
Secretario de Relaciones Exteriores  
Secretaría de Estado de Relaciones Exteriores  
**Contact:** Vice Canciller | 1-809 535-6280, Ext. 2233                                                         |
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<th>COUNTRY</th>
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<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>M. Dominiaue de Villepin , Ministre Cellule Environnement-DIRECTION des Affaires Economiques et Financieres Ministre des Affaires Etrangeres <strong>Contact</strong>: M. Jean-Georges Mandon, Direction des Affaires économiques et financières</td>
<td>(33-1) 4317-5353, 4317-4425, 4442 <a href="mailto:jean-georges.mandon@diplomatie.gouv.fr">jean-georges.mandon@diplomatie.gouv.fr</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grenada</td>
<td>Mr Elvin Nimrod, Minister Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade <strong>Contact</strong>: Mr Adrian Hayes, Assistant Permanent Secretary</td>
<td>(1-473) 440-2712 /2640 /3036 /2255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>*Embajador Jorge Briz Abularach, Ministro Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores <strong>Contact</strong>: **Lic. Leila Carolina Villatoro Rodríguez, Primer Secretario (Técnico de Tema Ambientales)</td>
<td>(502) 348-0100* (502) 348-0000 ext. 3113**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guyana</td>
<td>His Exc. Mr Rudolph Insanally, Minister Ministry of Foreign Affairs <strong>Contact</strong>: Ambassador Elisabeth Harper, Director General</td>
<td>(592-2) 226-9080 (592-2) 225-7404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>M. Joseph Philippe Antonio, Ministre Ministère des Affaires Etrangères et des Cultes</td>
<td>509 228-482, 231-668, 222-6413 <a href="mailto:blvdaharrytrumin@haiti.com">blvdaharrytrumin@haiti.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honduras</td>
<td>*Abogado Guillermo Augusto Perez-Cadalso Arias , Secretario de Estado-Ministro Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores <strong>Attention</strong>: **Sr. Enrique Reina, Asistente del Canciller <strong>Contact</strong>: Lic. Rosalyn Martínez Delattibodier</td>
<td>*(504) 234-1478 (504) 234 -1942/52 *(504) 234-8988 (504) 234-5411 /1898 /1949 /1971 ext.305 <a href="mailto:ereina@sre.hn">ereina@sre.hn</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamaica</td>
<td>The Hon. K. D. Knight, Minister Ministry of Foreign Affairs &amp; Foreign Trade <strong>Contact</strong>: Amb. Stafford Neil, Permanent Secretary</td>
<td>(876) 926-4220-9, (876) 926-4416-7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>Sr. Luis E. Derbez&lt;br&gt;Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores&lt;br&gt;&lt;b&gt;Contact&lt;/b&gt;: Sra. María de Lourdes Aranda Bezaury, Director General para la Nueva Agenda Int'l.</td>
<td>(52-55) 91 57 2234&lt;br&gt;(52-55) 91 57 2235&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:laranda@sre.gob.mx">laranda@sre.gob.mx</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montserrat (UK)</td>
<td>Her Excellency the Governor, Mrs Deborah Barnes-Jones, Governor&lt;br&gt;Directorate on Environmental Protection</td>
<td>664 491-2688</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>His Exc. Jozias J. van Aartsen, Minister&lt;br&gt;Ministry of Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>(31-70) 348-6486 / 6422&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:k.a.koekkoek@minbuza.nl">k.a.koekkoek@minbuza.nl</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands Antilles - Curacao</td>
<td>Mrs. Lucita C. G. Moenir Alam, Director&lt;br&gt;Directorate of Foreign Relations of the Netherlands Antilles&lt;br&gt;&lt;b&gt;Contact&lt;/b&gt;: Ms Darryllin L. van der Veen</td>
<td>(599-9) 461-3933&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:darryllin.vanderveen@gov.an">darryllin.vanderveen@gov.an</a>, <a href="mailto:bbavejura@curinfo.an">bbavejura@curinfo.an</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicaragua</td>
<td>Excmo. Sr. Norman Caldera, Ministro&lt;br&gt;Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores</td>
<td>505-2 44-8000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panama</td>
<td>S.E. Harmodio Arias Cerjack, Ministro&lt;br&gt;Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores&lt;br&gt;&lt;b&gt;Contact&lt;/b&gt;: Dr. Edgar Spence Herrera, Director General de Organismos y Conferencias Internacionales</td>
<td>(507) 211-4244/211-4200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Kitts and Nevis</td>
<td>Dr. Timothy Harris, Minister&lt;br&gt;Ministry of Foreign Affairs &amp; Education&lt;br&gt;&lt;b&gt;Contact&lt;/b&gt;: Mr Osmond Petty, Permanent Secretary</td>
<td>(1-869) 465-2521 ext 1057&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:foreigna@caribsurf.com">foreigna@caribsurf.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Lucia</td>
<td>*Ms Marcia Philbert-Jules, Permanent Secretary&lt;br&gt;Ministry of Physical Development, Environment and Housing&lt;br&gt;&lt;b&gt;Contact&lt;/b&gt;: **Mr. George James, Deputy Permanent Secretary</td>
<td>(1-758) 468-4419&lt;br&gt;*<a href="mailto:ps@planning.gov.lc">ps@planning.gov.lc</a>&lt;br&gt;**<a href="mailto:dps@planning.gov.lc">dps@planning.gov.lc</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Vincent and the Grenadines</td>
<td>The Hon. Louis Straker, Minister&lt;br&gt;Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Commerce &amp; Trade&lt;br&gt;&lt;b&gt;Contact&lt;/b&gt;: Mrs. Shirley Francis, Permanent Secretary</td>
<td>(1-784) 456-2060&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:svgforeign@caribsurf.com">svgforeign@caribsurf.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Suriname</td>
<td>H.E. Dr. M. E. Levens, Minister Ministry of Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>(597) 420-063 /410-093</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Contact: Mr Ewald Limon, Head of Division of International Organizations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trinidad and Tobago</td>
<td>Mr Knowlson Gift, Minister Ministry of Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>(1-868) 623-4116 to 20 <a href="mailto:permanent.secretary@foreign.gov.tt">permanent.secretary@foreign.gov.tt</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turks and Caicos (UK)</td>
<td>Mr James Poston, CBE, Governor Governor's Office</td>
<td>(1-649) 946-2308-9 <a href="mailto:david.peate@fco.gov.uk">david.peate@fco.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Attention: Mr David Peate, First Secretary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Ms Denise Dudgeon, Environment Policy Department Foreign and Commonwealth Office</td>
<td>(44-207) 270-2725 <a href="mailto:denise.dudgeon@fco.gov.uk">denise.dudgeon@fco.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States of America</td>
<td>The Hon. Colin Powell, Secretary of State U.S. Department of State OES/OA</td>
<td>(1-202) 647-3879 <a href="mailto:chickal@state.gov">chickal@state.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Contact: Ms. Anne Chick, International Relations Officer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venezuela</td>
<td>*Excmo. Sr. Roy Chaderton Matos, Ministro Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores</td>
<td>(58-212) 862-0332/ *862 4668, 860 0209, **8061111 x256/7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Attention: Emb. Adriana Pulido, Directora de Política Multilateral</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dgsftm@mipsat.com.ve">dgsftm@mipsat.com.ve</a>/ <a href="mailto:albertobelzares@yahoo.com">albertobelzares@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Contact: **Emb. Alberto Belzares, Jefe de la División de Fronteras Marítimas</td>
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</table>

1.5 Financial Arrangements

1.5.1 Caribbean Trust Fund

Administered by: CAR/RCU.
Extended through: 31 December 2005
Scale of assessment: see table below
Counterpart contributions:

Link to the Workplan for the Caribbean Environment Programme for the biennium 2002-2003:
http://www.cep.unep.org/pubs/meetingreports/11th%20IGM/English/IG24-4en.doc

Link to the Budget for the Caribbean Environment Programme for the biennium 2002-2003:
http://www.cep.unep.org/pubs/meetingreports/11th%20IGM/English/IG24-4%20annex1en.xls
## Indicative Level of Voluntary Contributions to the Caribbean Trust Fund, 2004-2005 (in US dollars)

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* Same contribution as of 2003
** Increase of 5% over contributions of 2004 as of Decision VI of the 11th IGM
*** Member States that have indicated their pledge levels
1.5.2 Other Funding Agencies

For other funding projects see ongoing projects.

Inter-American Development Bank (USA) (http://www.iadb.org/)
Canadian International Development Agency CIDA (http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/)
CARICOM-Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) (http://www.caricom-fisheries.com/)
Global Environmental Facility (http://www.gefweb.org/)
The MacArthur Foundation (http://www.macfound.org/)
Organization of American States OAS (http://www.oas.org/)
Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) (http://www.sida.se/)
United Nations Foundation (UNF) (http://www.unfoundation.org)
US Department of State (http://www.state.gov/)
US National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) (http://www.nfwf.org/)
US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (http://www.noaa.gov)
FAO Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC) (http://www.fao.org/fi/body/rfb/wecafc/wecafc_home.htm)
World Bank (http://www.worldbank.org/)

1.6 Partners

Refer to Regional Seas Partnerships page on the main website.

1.6.1 Caribbean Environmental NGOs

The Caribbean Natural Resource Institute (CANARI) Trinidad & Tobago, promotes participatory natural resource management in the Caribbean.

Caribbean Conservation Association (Barbados) an NGO focused on the conservation, protection and wise use of the region's natural and cultural resources.

Island Resources Foundation (St. Thomas) is dedicated to solving the environmental problems of development in small tropical islands.

Caribbean Environmental Health Institute (CEHI) addresses, in an organised manner, the environmental health concerns of people of the English-speaking Caribbean.

Caribbean Conservation Association (CCA) facilitates the development & implementation of policies, programmes & practices, which contribute to the sustainable management of the region’s natural & cultural resources.

BirdLife International is working to improve the quality of life for birds, for other wildlife (biodiversity), and for people.
Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO) main objective is the development of sustainable tourism for the economic and social benefit of Caribbean people.

Earth College

ICRAN-MAR Project is a collaborative effort working to halt and reverse the decline in health of the coral reefs along the eastern coasts of Mexico, Belize, Guatemala and Honduras.

Jamaica Environment Trust (JET) main focus is environmental education and advocacy. We believe awareness of and concern about environmental issues are critical building blocks of sustainable development.

Montego Bay Marine Park (MBMP) duties entail protecting and managing natural resources through scientific monitoring of the bay, interpretive enforcement of park regulations, and community outreach programmes

Negril Marine Park

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) mission is to preserve the plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive.

The World Conservation Union (IUCN) mission is “to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable”.

Whales and Dolphin Conservation Society (WDCS) is dedicated to the conservation and welfare of all whales, dolphins and porpoises (also known as cetaceans).

1.6.2 Governmental Organizations

National Environment & Planning Agency (NEPA)
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration NOAA (USA)
US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
US Environmental Defense

2 Our Work

2.1 Programme Strategy

Link to Regional Seas Strategic Directions 2004-2007, downloadable document: to come

2.2 Action Plan

Caribbean Action Plan
Year adopted: 1981
Signatories / Participating Countries: 28 States and Territories
Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America, Venezuela, the Caribbean Territories of France, Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

**Objectives:**
- Assistance to all countries of the region, recognising the special situation of the smaller islands;
- Co-ordination of international assistance activities;
- Strengthening existing national and sub-regional institutions;
- Technical co-operation in the use of the region's human, financial and natural resources.


### 2.3 Convention

**Full title:** Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region  
**Short title:** Cartagena Convention  
**Year adopted:** March 24th 1983, Cartagena de Indias, Colombia  
**Year entered into force:** October 11, 1986  
**Contracting Parties:** Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, France, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Netherlands Antilles, Nicaragua, Panama, St Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom, United States of America, Venezuela, European Economic Commission

**Status of Ratification April 2003:**

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* France signed with a reservation.
** Ratified on behalf of the Netherlands Antilles Federation on 16 April 1984, and for Aruba as of 1 January 1986.
*** Ratified on behalf of the Cayman Islands and Turks and Caicos Islands on 28 February 1986, reserving the right to extend it at a future date to include other territories. On 21 November 1987, it was extended to the British Virgin Islands

**Parties not yet Ratified:** Honduras, Nicaragua and the European Union

**Secretariat for the Convention**

UNEP-CAR/RCU
14-20 Port Royal Street
Kingston, Jamaica
Tel.: (876) 922-9267,
Fax: (876) –922-9292,
E-mail: uneprcuja@cwjamaica.com,
Website: [http://www.cep.unep.org](http://www.cep.unep.org)

**Depository State**

**Head of Institution:** S.E. Sra. Carolina Barco, Ministra de Relaciones Exteriores
**Attention:** Dr. Jaime Girón Duarte, Viceministro de Asuntos Multilaterales
**Contact:** Dra. Ma. Andrea Albán, Coordinadora Grupo de Asuntos Ambientales Multilaterales Ambientales
**Name of Institution:** Area de Tratados, Oficina Jurídica, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

**Address:**
Palacio de San Carlos
Calle 10 #5-51
Bogotá
Tel: (571) (57-1) 566-7077, 562-8032
Fax: (571) 566-6081
E-mail: andrea.alban@minrelex.gov.co, ataboga03@minrelex.gov.co
Website: [www.minrelex.gov.co](http://www.minrelex.gov.co)
2.3.1 Protocols

2.3.1.1 Oil Spills

The Protocol Concerning Co-operation in Combating Oil Spills
Year adopted: 1983
Year entered into force: October 11, 1986
Status of Ratification April 2003:

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### 2.3.1.2 Specially Protected Area and Wildlife

The Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Area and Wildlife (SPAW)

Year adopted: 1990  
Year entered into force: June 18, 2000  
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2.3.1.3 Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities

The Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities (LBS)
Year Adopted: 6th October 1999
Year entered into force: Not yet in force
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2.4 Issues and Threats

2.4.1 Climate Change and Sea Level Rise
The Wider Caribbean region consists of many islands that are now threatened by the potential prospect of sea level rise in the coming years. And the need to protect coastal habitats is as important as ever. The implications of sea level rise for the region should be seriously considered, particularly in the context of the role of MPAs (Stanley, 2003).

Associated Links:
Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Global Climate Change http://www.cpacc.org
International Panel on Climate Change www.ipcc.ch
Global Warming and Sea level rise publications http://yosemite.epa.gov/oar/globalwarming.nsf/content/ResourceCenterPublicationsSeaLevelRiseIndex.html.

2.4.2 Habitat Loss
Population growth and tourism are prompting the conversion of the natural Caribbean coastlines into ports, tourist beaches and new communities. Clearing of mangrove forests and other natural areas reduces habitats for endangered wildlife, as well as nurseries for important fisheries (CEP, 2003). Problems affecting mangrove ecosystems include clear-cutting for tourism development, creation of aquaculture ponds, and the filling in of watersheds for development projects. It is estimated that 75 per cent of the pink shrimp harvest in Florida are dependant on nutrients derived from the mangrove ecosystems (UNEP, 1984). Moreover mangroves provide safe and irreplaceable wildlife habitats for a variety of other animals such as fish, crabs, birds and their contribution to the mineralization of organic anthropogenic waste is of practical value (UNEP, 1984).

Coral reefs in the Caribbean are also under severe threat, 22 per cent have already been lost (CEP, 2003). Problems include coastal erosion from dredging and construction, pollution from sewage wastes and fertilizers, removal of large quantities of fish (including use of toxic and hazardous materials to flush out fish), and resulting changes in fish populations, as well as damage from boat anchors and recreational misuse. Natural events such as the massive coral bleaching of 1987 and disease have reduced much of the coral reefs. Bermuda's reefs are severely affected by coral diseases, particularly Black Band disease. In common with the rest of the Caribbean, Bermuda suffered mass mortality of the urchin Diadema antillarum in 1983. Increasing sedimentation is causing concern as corals are being smothered and it is the main problem affecting sea-grass beds. CEP as established a network of marine protected areas to conserve and protect ecosystems.

Associated Links:
Caribbean Conservation Association (Barbados) http://www.cccanet.net/ includes links to members. Calendar: http://www.cccanet.net/cgi-bin/calendar.pl
CANARI (Caribbean Natural Resources Institute) http://www.canari.org/
National Association for Natural Conservation (Panam a) in Spanish http://www.ancon.org/
Environment Tobago (Trinidad and Tobago) http://www.interconnection.org/et/ and http://www.scsoft.de/et/et2.nsf/HomepageNav?OpenNavigator&Query=BW=H.
2.4.3 Endangered Species

Human activities have destroyed a number of unique ecosystems and habitats, and species have been lost. In the last 150 years, eight species of vertebrates have become extinct in Jamaica alone. The primary threats are pollution, sedimentation, over exploitation of resources (fisheries), habitat destruction due to population growth and increased tourism (CEP, 2003). 76% of all endangered species are threatened by habitat loss. CEP aims to increase public awareness and prepare management plans.

Associated Links:
Sea Turtle Survival League Caribbean Conservation Corporation (USA) (http://www.cccturtle.org)

The Wild Dolphin Project (The Bahamas) (http://wwwa.com/dolphin/
Santuario de Mamiferos Marinos de la Republica Dominicana (Marine Mammals Protected Area in the Dominican Republic) (http://www.civila.com/jorobada/index.htm).

2.4.4 Increasing Tourism

The tourism industry is ever increasing and very important to the Caribbean economy. The Caribbean Alliance for Sustainable Tourism estimates that one in every four jobs in the Caribbean is part of the tourism industry (CEP, 2003). However increasing tourism is putting a huge pressure on the coastal and marine resources. Coral reefs in the Caribbean are the destination of approximately 60% of scuba diving tours worldwide (CEP, 2003). CEP is promoting beach management practices, ecotourism, environmentally sound hotel management and sewage and waste disposal management.

2.4.5 Over-exploitation of Resources

The fisheries of the Caribbean region are extremely overexploited, and many islands are now utilising for consumption less desirable species. Over harvesting along with pollution have depleted fish populations faster than they can recover through natural population growth (CEP, 2003). 35% of fish stocks in the Wider Caribbean Region are considered overexploited (CEP, 2003). There is also great concern for the high level of artisanal effort and the use of unselective gears (fish traps). Most areas in the Caribbean have had significant population reductions in turtle, manatees and other marine mammal as a result of exploitation for commercial purposes. The American Crocodile has also seen a reduction in numbers in the last few years.

Associated Links:
CARICOM Fisheries Resource Assessment and Management Programme (http://www.caricom-fisheries.com):
Caribbean Coastal Marine Productivity (CARICOMP) Programme (http://isis.uwimona.edu.jm/centres/cms/caricomp/caricomp_main.html)

2.4.6 Land Based Sources of Marine Pollution
Municipal, industrial and agricultural wastes and run-off account for as much as 90% of all marine pollution (CEP, 2003). Runoff from industrial and agricultural wastes permeates rivers and the soil, ultimately making its way to mangrove and coral communities, offsetting the delicate nutrient balance. This in turn can cause an imbalance in the food chain, artificially increasing the abundance of some organisms while making others scarce, and degrading or destroying habitats. Sewage and wastewater, pesticides, heavy metals, oils, nutrients, and sediments can harm both humans and coastal ecosystems. CEP is aiming to improve coastal management and environmental monitoring, promote sustainable agriculture, improve sewage treatment and restore contaminated bays. Pollution of the marine environment occurs from sea-based sources as well. Oil spill poses a threat to the marine environment of the Caribbean region. CEP is promoting oil spill response training in cooperation with the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency, Information and Training Centre-Carib.

Associated Links:
- Assessment and management of environmental pollution in the Caribbean http://www.cep.unep.org/who/amep.php

2.4.7 Unsustainable Agricultural and Forestry Practices
Deforestation and agricultural activities have increased sediment loads into Caribbean coastal areas. The WWF estimates that the forests of central America are being cleared faster than anywhere else in the world. Excess nutrients and pesticides can cause fish kills and make nearshore environments unsuitable for popular tourist activities such as swimming, snorkelling and scuba diving. CEP is working towards best management practices for erosion and sediment control, water and land use management and pesticide and nutrient control.

Associated Links:
- Island Resources Foundation (St. Thomas) http://www.irf.org/

2.4.8 Small Island Developing States
The Wider Caribbean region composes 28 small islands. Small Island Developing States and islands supporting small communities are a special case for environment and development. They are ecologically fragile and vulnerable. Their small size, limited resources, geographic dispersion and isolation from markets, place them at a disadvantage.

Associated Links:
- Small Islands Developing States www.sidsnet.org
- Island Systems http://www.islandsystems.com

2.5 Current Activities
Refer to Regional Seas Partnerships page on the main website for information on current activities.
3 Publications

3.1 Regional Seas Reports and Studies
Refer to Regional Seas Reports and Studies on the main homepage.

3.2 Technical Reports
For a full list of Technical Reports link to
Alternatively visit the Environment Directory

3.3 Meeting Reports
All meeting reports are available in English, Spanish and French on
http://www.cep.unep.org/pubs/meetingreports/CEPmeetings.htm

3.4 Website Links
Caribbean Environment Programme CEP http://www.cep.unep.org
Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean ROLAC http://www.rolac.unep.org.
AMEP http://www.cep.unep.org/who/amep.php
WW2BW http://www.ww2b2.org
CANARI (Caribbean Natural Resources Institute) http://www.canari.org/
Caribbean Conservation Association (Barbados) http://www.ccanet.net/ includes links
members.
Sea Turtle Survival League Caribbean Conservation Corporation (USA)
(http://www.ccturtle.org/)
Island Resources Foundation (St. Thomas) http://www.irf.org/
National Association for Natural Conservation (Panama) in Spanish
http://www.ancon.org/
Environment Tobago (Trinidad and Tobago) http://www.interconnection.org/et/
Reef Care Curacao http://www.reefcare.org/.
Small Islands Developing States www.sidsnet.org
Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Global Climate Change http://www.cpacc.org
CARICOM Fisheries Resource Assessment and Management Programme
(http://www.caricom-fisheries.com/):
Coral Health and Monitoring Programme (http://coral.aoml.noaa.gov/)
The Wild Dolphin Project (The Bahamas) (http://wwwa.com/dolphin/)
Association of Caribbean States http://www.acs-aec.org/
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (Chile)
(http://www.eclac.cl/index1.html)
Environmental Department MINA VOMIL (http://mina.vomil.an.
ECCEA Eastern Caribbean Coalition for Environmental Awareness
(http://www.eccea.org
Ministry of Environment (Venezuela) in Spanish (http://www.marnr.gov.ve/).
White Water to Blue Water Initiative [http://www.ww2bw.org](http://www.ww2bw.org)
Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary ([http://www.florida-keys.fl.us/ntmarine.htm](http://www.florida-keys.fl.us/ntmarine.htm)).
Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute SORS (Panama) ([http://www.si.edu/ofg/Units/sorsstri.htm](http://www.si.edu/ofg/Units/sorsstri.htm))
Caribbean Environmental Health Institute [http://www.cehi.org.lc](http://www.cehi.org.lc)

### 3.5 Newsletter
CEP News, Quarterly available at [www.cepi.unep.org](http://www.cepi.unep.org)

### 4 Calendar of Events

#### 4.1 Calendar of Events

**2005**
- 3rd Meeting of the Interim Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee (ISTAC) to the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities in the Wider Caribbean (LBS)
- 3rd Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean Region

**2006**
- 12th Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and 9th Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region

For further events and dates link to [http://www.cepi.unep.org/calendar/calendarix_1_3_20040131/calendar.php](http://www.cepi.unep.org/calendar/calendarix_1_3_20040131/calendar.php)

### 5 References

CEP (2003) The Caribbean Environment Programme, Promoting regional co-operation to protect the marine environment. UNEP