



Background

In the Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS), high population densities, combined with population growth, urbanization and increased development, particularly residential and tourist resort development, has led to the contamination of underlying aquifers and surface water, and deterioration of coastal water quality.

The Project *Integrating Watershed and Coastal Area Management (IWCAM) in the Small Island Developing States (SIDS)* of the Caribbean, with a value of USD 22 Million, was approved by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in May

2004. Implementing agencies are the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Executing agencies are the Secretariat of the Cartagena Convention (UNEP-CAR/RCU) and the Caribbean Environmental Health Institute (CEHI). The thirteen participating SIDS are; Antigua & Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Grenada, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, and Trinidad & Tobago. The length of the Project is 5 years and commenced in the second quarter of 2005. The Project Coordinating Unit is located at the CEHI, as agreed by

the Implementing and Executing Agencies and the participating countries and was established in May 2006, when the Regional Project Coordinator assumed duties.

Main issues of IWCAM

1. Diminishing freshwater supplies
2. Degraded freshwater and coastal water quality
3. Inappropriate land use
4. Hygiene and sanitation

Objective

The overall objective of this Project is to strengthen the commitment and capacity of the participating countries to implement an integrated approach to the management of watersheds and coastal areas. The long-term goal is to enhance the capacity of the countries to plan and manage their aquatic resources and ecosystems on a sustainable basis.

In particular, project activities will be focusing on improvements in integrated freshwater basin-coastal area management on each island of the regional groupings of Caribbean SIDS.

Demonstration projects

Paramount to addressing the

SUB-COMPONENT	COUNTRY	TITLE OF DEMONSTRATION PROJECT
A: Water Resource Conservation and Management	St. Kitts and Nevis	Rehabilitation and Management of the Basseterre Valley as a Protection Measure for the Underlying Aquifer
	St. Lucia	Protecting and Valuing Watershed Services and Developing Management Incentives in the Fond D'or Watershed Area of St. Lucia
B: Wastewater Treatment and Management	Antigua and Barbuda	Mitigation of Groundwater and Coastal Impacts from Sewage Discharges from St. John
	Bahamas - Exuma	Marina Waste Management at Elizabeth Harbour in Exuma, Bahamas
	Dominican Republic	Mitigation of Impacts of Industrial Wastes on the Lower Haina River Basin and its Coast
C: Land-use Planning, Zoning and Alternative practices	Bahamas - Andros	Land and Sea Use Planning for Water Recharge Protection and Management in Andros, Bahamas
	Trinidad and Tobago	Land-Use Planning and Watershed Restoration as part of a Focused IWCAM Demonstration in the Courland Watershed and Buccoo Reef Area
D: Targeted Model IWCAM	Cuba	Application of IWCAM Concepts at Cienfuegos Bay and Watershed
	Jamaica	An Integrated Approach to Managing the Marine, Coastal and Watershed Resources of east-central Portland

lack of solutions available to SIDS on key issues such as island-based sources of pollution, water resource conservation and management, unsustainable land-use and inappropriate agricultural practices, etc. is the inclusion of a major project component delivering on-the-ground demonstrations targeted at national hotspots where specific threats to national, regional and global environmental amenities have been identified. One of the critical requirements of these demonstrations is to develop mechanisms for the replication of activities and for the transfer of best lessons and practices, both nationally and regionally.

Consequently, the project aims to demonstrate the development of an effective regional strategy for IWCAM, in parallel with demonstrating and replicating geographically targeted national solutions to common Caribbean SIDS issues, through a series of interconnected components that capture best practices and translate these into replicable action. Nine Demonstration projects were approved and are found below, each to the value of approximately USD 500,000.

The Project consists of 5 components. These will undertake regional management, coordination and evaluation of IWCAM objectives; demonstrate technological and management approaches and policy and legislative reforms within selected hotspots; identify impact indicators for measuring IWCAM efficacy and implement a programme of measurement and monitoring which will drive policy reforms; and establish networking, sharing of knowledge, and partnerships within the Caribbean SIDS for IWCAM.



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INTEGRATING WATERSHED AND COASTAL AREA MANAGEMENT (IWCAM)



IN THE SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES OF THE CARIBBEAN

Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Grenada,
Dominica, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis,
Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago

