



United Nations
Environment Programme

Distr. LIMITED

UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.39/3
28 February 2017

Original: ENGLISH

Seventeenth Intergovernmental Meeting of the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and Fourteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region

Cayenne, French Guiana, 15 - 17 March 2017

**WORKPLAN AND BUDGET FOR THE CARIBBEAN ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME FOR
THE BIENNIUM 2017-2018**

For reasons of economy and the environment, Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies of the Working and Information documents to the Meeting, and not to request additional copies.

*This document has been reproduced without formal editing.

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Abbreviations	iii
I. INTRODUCTION	1
II. OVERALL COORDINATION AND COMMON COSTS	2
A. Background	2
B. Objectives	2
C. Caribbean Environment Programme	2
1. Personnel, Finance and Office Administration	3
2. Communication, promotion and awareness of the Caribbean Environment Programme.....	3
3. Key Concerns of the Overall Coordination and Common Costs: Workplan and Budget	5
4. Meetings of the Caribbean Environment Programme	6
D. Overall Coordination and Common Costs	6
III. SUBPROGRAMME WORKPLANS	6
A. Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution (AMEP)	6
1. Background	6
2. Projects and Activities	7
A. Programme Coordination	7
B. Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Projects	11
C. Monitoring and Assessment	21
D. Waste Management	22
E. National Programmes of Action	25
B. Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW)	30
1. Background	31
2. Projects and Activities	31
A. Programme Coordination	31
B. Strengthening of Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean Region	33
C. Development of Guidelines for the Management of Protected Areas and Species	36
D. Conservation of Threatened and Endangered Species	39
E. Conservation and Sustainable Use of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems	42
Annex I: Budget for the Caribbean Environment Programme for the 2017-2018 Biennium	46

Abbreviations

AMEP	Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution
BEST Initiative	The Voluntary Scheme for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Territories of European Overseas
CABI	CAB International (formerly Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau)
CaMPAM	Caribbean Marine Protected Areas Managers Network and Forum
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
Cariwet	Caribbean Wetlands Regional Initiative
CAR/RCU	Caribbean Regional Coordinating Unit
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBF	Caribbean Biodiversity Fund
CCAD	Central American Commission for Environment and Development
CCI	Caribbean Challenge Initiative
CEP	Caribbean Environment Programme
CERMES	Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies
CHM	Clearing House Mechanism
CIMAB	Centro de Ingeniería y Manejo Ambiental de Bahías y Costas
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CLME ⁺	Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems
CMA	Caribbean Marine Atlas
CMS	Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
COP	Conference of Parties
CREHO	Ramsar Regional Centre for Training and Research on Wetlands in the Western Hemisphere
CReW	Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management
CRFM	Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism
DPSIR	Driving Forces, Pressures, State, Impact, Responses
DSS	Decision Support System
EAF	Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries
EBA	Ecosystem Based Adaptation
EBM	Ecosystem Based Management
ECMMAN	Climate Resilient Eastern Caribbean Marine Managed Areas Network
ECRE	Bluefinance Economics for Coral Reef Ecosystems
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organisation
GCFI	Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute
GCRMN	Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GESAMP	United Nations Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection
GPA	Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities
IAC	Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IAS	Invasive Alien Species
ICRI IDB	International Coral Reef Initiative
IFRECOR	Inter-American Development Bank
IGM	French Initiative for Coral Reefs
IMA	Intergovernmental Meeting
INVEMAR	Institute of Marine Affairs Centro de Investigaciones Marinas de Colombia
IOCARIBE	Inter-governmental Oceanographic Commission's Sub-Commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
IWEco	Integrating Water, Land and Ecosystems Management in Caribbean SIDS

IWC

International Whaling Commission

IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
LBS	Protocol Concerning Land-Based Sources of Pollution
LME	Large Marine Ecosystems
MamaCocoSea	Marine Mammal Conservation Corridor South East America
MARFund	Mesoamerican Reef Fund
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
MMA	Marine Managed Area
MMAP	Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Mammals in the Wider Caribbean Region
MMAP-PA	Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Mammals in the Wider Caribbean Region's Priority Actions: Five Year Plan
MoC	Memorandum of Cooperation
MPA	Marine Protected Area
NAHW-SSP	North Atlantic Humpback Whale Sister Sanctuary Program
NGO	Non-Government Organizations
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPA	National Programme of Action (for Pollution Prevention)
OAS	Organisation of American States
OCCC	Overall Coordination and Common Costs
OECS-ESDU	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States -Environment and Sustainable Development Unit
PA	Protected Area
PAHO	Pan American Health Organisation
PIF	Project Information Form (GEF)
PES	Payment for Ecosystem Services
RAC	Regional Activity Centre
Ramsar	Convention on Wetlands of International Importance
RCDR	Reef Check Dominican Republic
REMPEITC	Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Training and Information Centre
RLC	Regional Lionfish Committee
ROLAC	Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean
SAMOA	SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action
SAP	Strategic Action Programme
SCSCB	BirdsCaribbean (formerly Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds)
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
sLMR	Shared Living Marine Resources
SOCAR	State of the Convention Area Report (for the Wider Caribbean Region)
SPAW	Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife in the Wider Caribbean Region
STAC	Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee
STRAP	Sea Turtle Recovery Action Plan
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
ToT	Training of Trainers
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEA-2	Second session of the United Nations Environmental Assembly
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNEP-DEPI	UNEP-Division of Environmental Policy Implementation
UNEP-DEWA	UNEP-Division of Early Warning and Assessment
UNEP-DTIE	UNEP-Department of Technology, Industry & Economics
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNESCO	US-EPA
USDA	

United Nations	Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization United States Department of Agriculture United States Environmental Protection Agency
WCMC	World Conservation Monitoring Centre

WCPA	World Commission on Protected Areas
WCR	Wider Caribbean Region
WECAFC	Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission
WHMSI	Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Initiative
WIDECAST	Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

**DRAFT WORPLAN AND BUDGET FOR THE CARIBBEAN ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
FOR THE 2017-2018 BIENNIUM**

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This Workplan covers the 2017-2018 biennium and presents activities to implement the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention) and its Protocols and the Action Plan of the Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP).
2. During the 2017-2018 biennium, CEP will continue to coordinate with relevant global initiatives, such as the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA) and related multilateral environmental agreements, such as the Basel Convention for the Control of the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance and the World Heritage Convention of UNESCO (WHS). This Workplan also reflects the close coordination with other agencies of the United Nations such as the International Atomic & Energy Agency (IAEA), the International Oceanographic Commission (IOC) and its IOCARIBE Secretariat, the International Maritime Organization (IMO), Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), development agencies and other regional and international organizations.
3. The CEP Secretariat prepared this document with inputs received during Working Group meetings convened since the Sixteenth Intergovernmental Meeting, recommendations of the Seventh Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) of the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) Protocol, decisions of the Eighth Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP) to the SPAW Protocol, recommendations of the Third Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee of the Land-based Sources of Pollution (LBS) Protocol and decisions of the Second Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol. The outcomes of relevant global or regional initiatives and previous and on-going project activities were also taken into account.
4. For the 2017-2018 biennium, the CEP will seek to enhance its programmatic strategic options by:
 - (a) Working with other Regional Seas Programmes with similar Action Plans;
 - (b) Integrating national and regional marine plans into Sub-programmes;
 - (c) Integrating national and regional socio-economic development plans that include coastal and marine components into Sub-programme strategies;
 - (d) Integrating decisions of the UN Environment Assembly, Global Biodiversity Conventions, Regional Seas Strategic Directions, and UNEP's Medium-Term Strategy;
 - (e) Working both externally and internally to improve coordination mechanisms within and between Sub-programmes.

II. OVERALL COORDINATION AND COMMON COSTS

A. Background

5. The Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP) was established to provide a mechanism whereby the diverse States and Territories of the Wider Caribbean Region could collectively address the protection and development of their marine and coastal resources as the basis for the region's continued economic development. The achievement of this goal is dependent upon the incorporation of the principles of mutual technical assistance; the development and strengthening of regional and national, institutional and legislative frameworks; the standardization of approaches and methodologies; the encouragement of appropriate research; the joint management of shared resources, and the exchange of relevant information, among others. To provide cohesiveness to the various components of the Programme, and to minimize duplication of effort and wastage of resources, the overall coordination of the Programme's components is centralized and undertaken by the Caribbean Regional Coordinating Unit (CAR/RCU) in Kingston.
6. The Caribbean Regional Coordinating Unit (CAR/RCU) is the Secretariat for the CEP and is responsible for the coordination and implementation of the Programme. The CAR/RCU carries out the programmatic, administrative, financial, and personnel functions related to the administration of the Action Plan and the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols. CAR/RCU operates under the authority of UN Environment Headquarters through the Ecosystems Division (DEPI), in cooperation with the UN Environment Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC), the Caribbean Sub-Regional Office and the Governments of the region through an Intergovernmental and Contracting Parties body and a Monitoring Committee.

B. Objectives

7. The objectives of the Caribbean Environment Programme, through this Workplan, are to:
 - (a) Provide a consolidated legislative, institutional, and programmatic framework for cooperation among member countries and organizations concerned with the management of marine and coastal resources in the Wider Caribbean Region;
 - (b) Provide effective coordination for the implementation of the various components of CEP; and
 - (c) Convene such meetings as required by the Cartagena Convention and its protocols, to facilitate the implementation of the Programme within the appropriate legislative and technical authority.

C. Caribbean Environment Programme Coordination

8. The basic Secretariat support of CEP rests on the core staff and operational budget. All staff requirements (salaries and related expenses), office supplies and materials, equipment, intergovernmental meetings, travel, and miscellaneous items are included in the overall coordination and common costs of the Workplan and budget. Individual activities and projects appear under the Workplans of the Sub-programmes.

1. Personnel, Finance and Office Administration

9. During the last biennium, the CEP Secretariat has continued to mobilise project funds in cash for activities, as well as some in-kind contributions to host meetings which have helped to offset costs from the Caribbean Trust Fund. In 2017-2018, CEP will continue to be supplemented with the personnel and the administrative costs from major projects such as those of the Global Environment Facility (GEF). It is of utmost importance that countries continue to pay their contributions. For those countries with outstanding contributions to the Caribbean Trust Fund (CTF), we encourage that a payment schedule be arranged in writing with the CEP Secretariat and an initial payment be made. For the 2017-2018 biennium, it is proposed that member states approve an increase in the contribution to the Caribbean Trust Fund (CTF) in order to carry out the work programme of the Secretariat.
10. We continue to be understaffed at both the professional and the general service staff levels. The CEP Secretariat therefore continues to explore any opportunities available to obtain additional human resources to the CEP such as through the Junior Professional Officers (JPO) programmes, assignment of experts from international developmental/environmental organizations, UN Volunteers (UNVs), internships, etc. and to solicit in-kind contributions from member governments, other international, regional and national organizations, as well as from CEP's Regional Activity Centres (RACs).
11. During the 2017-2018 biennium, CEP will continue to obtain funding by submitting project proposals to potential donors. At the same time, it will continue furthering efforts to implement cost-cutting measures, as well as to maximize the use of human resources. More and more information is being published on the web instead of being printed as hardcopy publications.
12. Additionally, the CEP Secretariat has been actively seeking to rationalize the mechanism to improve its financial situation. In addition to mobilising additional resources for activities, CEP has made efforts to cut down operational costs. Some few examples include: reduction of printing costs by encouraging paperless meetings, enhancing of the telephone system which has seen a reduction in the monthly telephone bills. The Secretariat is supported by the UN Environment Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC) by benefitting from their contractual arrangement with a travel agency in Panama thereby reducing ticket costs and the service charge from the travel agency. Additionally, the Secretariat acknowledges the signature of the Supplementary Agreement to the Host Country Agreement by the Government of Jamaica, in 2014 for a 5 year period, with the maintenance costs remaining at the same level as previously.

2. Communication and Awareness of the Caribbean Environment Programme

13. During the 2017-2018 biennium, the Communication, Education, Training and Awareness (CETA) Sub-programme will assist UN Environment CEP and its AMEP and SPAW Sub-Programmes in communication, promotion and awareness activities. These activities include the development of tools, production and dissemination of information relevant to the ratification and implementation of the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols, and maintenance and enhancement of existing Information Technology infrastructure.
14. Due to the limited availability of funding for a CETA Programme Officer, programme coordination will continue to be the responsibility of the AMEP Programme Officer. The Team Assistant for CETA/AMEP and the Computer/ Information Systems Assistant will provide additional internal support. Interns, project staff and external consultants will also support CETA in its proposed activities.
15. The communication efforts undertaken will increase access to information on coastal and marine resources. This will be done through maintenance and improvement of the CEP and its related websites and maintenance and development of networking and clearing-house mechanisms including focal point, lab capacity and other databases.
16. Promotion of the Cartagena Convention and CEP will continue at national, regional and international fora, workshops and meetings being organized by CEP over the biennium and through all available media including social media sites. Parties to the Cartagena Convention, the CEP community and the general public will be provided with regular updates on the availability of data and/or information regarding the protection and

development of coastal and marine resources in the Wider Caribbean Region. The online calendar of related meetings will be maintained to promote greater coordination and synergies in the convening of regional activities.

17. The effective flow of scientific and management information to Contracting Parties of the Cartagena Convention and other stakeholders, including their feedback and input to improving the delivery of services by CEP to the Wider Caribbean Region will continue to be facilitated over the biennium. This will include the continued use of the Reporting Template for the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols.
18. Support to the AMEP and SPAW Sub-programmes will continue in the following ways:
 - Dissemination of awareness raising materials and information products on the CEP and its projects and activities through the internet, existing list serves and networks such as CaMPAM. Support will continue for the production and dissemination of the Pollution (AMEP) and Biodiversity (SPAW) Newsletters.
 - In collaboration with the AMEP Sub-programme, an internal communication strategy for the State of the Convention Area Report will be developed to assist in the dissemination of the SOCAR and its findings.
 - Support to the convening of technical and Intergovernmental meetings of the CEP, including coordinating the preparation and dissemination of final reports for the:
 - Eighteenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and Fifteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region;
 - Tenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife in the Wider Caribbean Region (SPAW); and
 - Fourth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities in the Wider Caribbean Region (LBS).
 - CETA will also provide support to other regional meetings and workshops with CEP partners and RACs and those convened by GEF Projects executed by CAR/RCU;
 - CETA will coordinate responses to requests for information, reports, presentations and external surveys, including:
 - Progress in the implementation of the Regional Seas Strategic Directions for 2017-2020;
 - Input to the Secretary-General's Report on the Ocean and Law of the Sea; and
 - Report on measures taken in support of Resolution 67/205 adopted on 21 December 2012 "Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations";
 - CETA will support resource mobilization and partnership development efforts by the CEP Secretariat. This includes identifying activities and partnerships with local and regional stakeholders in partnerships with projects such as GEF IWeco and GEF CReW.
 - Commemorative activities will be implemented with the UN Environment Caribbean Sub-Regional Office to recognize 2017 International Year of Tourism for Sustainable Development and to commemorate other environmental days over the biennium.
 - CETA will support further in-house training to expand the use of social media and for enhancing the CEP and project web-sites.

19. Several activities will be conducted to increase the visibility of CEP in the region and to position the organization and its sub-programmes as leading contributors to sustainable development efforts in the WCR. These activities include:

- An updated internal communications and media strategy which will include a website content strategy and the incorporating recommendations based on analysis of CEP's Website and Social Media. The communications strategy will also contain:
 - Communication expectations, procedures and general guidelines for effective communication of CEP projects, activities and programmes;
 - Guidelines for the use of animations, info-graphics, social and mobile media, radio and video public service announcements, and other public education and outreach materials;
 - Recommendations for coordinating media activities to increase the visibility of CEP;
 - Recommendations for expanding the outreach and marketing of UN Environment CEP's work including potential new partners such as regional airlines, the cruise ship industry, and other private sector partners.
- Linkages with national/regional and, where appropriate, international media will be further developed and strengthened.
- Audio-visual public education and information materials on coastal and marine issues will continue to be produced in consultation with technical staff and where appropriate, with financial support from projects. These will be disseminated through the internet, social media and other appropriate mechanisms to Governments, the public, schools and media and may include press releases, news items, newsletters, fact sheets, info-graphic posters and cards, videos, technical reports, promotional material, radio programmes and information on small grants and other funding opportunities.
- Facilitation of the design and implementation of collaborative projects and activities in environmental education at national, and as appropriate, regional levels. This includes identifying and developing artistic competitions to raise awareness on environmental issues in the region, educating youth and the general public on the importance of protecting the marine environment and enhancing the CEP website including the kid's page to provide information relating to the management of coastal and marine resources.
- All communications efforts will be consistent with the new UN Communication Guidelines. Coordination will take place with relevant Global UN Environment Campaigns such as the "Clean Seas" Campaign on Marine Litter as well as activities to promote improved oceans management and the celebration of regional and global oceans events over the biennium.

3. Key Concerns of the Overall Coordination and Common Costs: Workplan and Budget

20. The budget for the overall coordination and common costs presented herewith is dependent on:

- (a) The full participation of all CEP member countries in making ordinary contributions to the Caribbean Trust Fund in accordance with the proposed level of contributions.
- (b) The capacity of the CEP Secretariat to attract extra-budgetary contributions. The CEP Secretariat must therefore continue to dedicate time to fund-raising efforts to cover the additional operational costs of the CEP Secretariat that exceed the level of ordinary contributions to the Trust Fund so as to off-set shortcomings in resources and avoid compromising the delivery of implemented programmes.

4. Meetings of the Caribbean Environment Programme

21. Several meetings of the Caribbean Environment Programme are held on an annual or biennial basis. These meetings are necessary for monitoring project implementation, the efficient functioning of the Programme, and for administrative purposes of the CEP Secretariat. The following meetings are to be convened during the biennium 2017-2018:
22. **Ninth Steering Committee of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency, Information and Training Center for the Wider Caribbean (RAC/REMPEITC) to the Oil Spills Protocol.** This will consider the Center's 2017-2018 work programme and progress in the implementation of the strategic plan.
- (a) **Eighth Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee to the SPAW Protocol**
23. The Eighth Meeting of the SPAW/STAC will be convened in the third quarter of 2018 to further the development and implementation of the SPAW Protocol, as well as to develop a workplan and budget for the 2017-2018 biennium.
- (b) **Tenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP) to the SPAW Protocol**
24. The Tenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to SPAW will be held in the final quarter of 2018, just prior to the Eighteenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and Fifteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region.
- (c) **Fourth Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee Meeting of the LBS Protocol**
25. The Fourth Meeting of the LBS/STAC will be convened in the third quarter of 2018 to further the development and implementation of the LBS Protocol, as well as to develop a workplan and budget for the 2019-2020 biennium.
- (d) **Fourth Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP) to the LBS Protocol**
26. The Fourth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol will be held in the last quarter of 2018, just prior to the Eighteenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and the Fifteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region.
- (e) **Eighteenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and Fifteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region**
27. The joint Intergovernmental and Contracting Party Meetings are convened every two years to provide overall guidance and authority to the CEP, review the progress of the Programme, oversee financial and institutional arrangements, and decide on the biennial Workplan and Budget of the CEP. The next meeting is scheduled to take place during the last quarter of 2018.

D. Overall Coordination and Common Costs

28. Overall coordination and common costs are set out on page 2 of Annex I to the present report.

III. SUB-PROGRAMME WORKPLAN

A. Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution (AMEP)

1. Background

29. This workplan and budget covers ongoing and new proposed projects and activities under the Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution (AMEP) sub-programme of the Secretariat to the Cartagena Convention for the biennium 2017-2018.

30. The overall goal of AMEP is to prevent, reduce, and control pollution of the coastal and marine environment from land and marine-based sources thereby enabling countries of the Wider Caribbean Region to meet their obligations under the *Protocols Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities* (LBS Protocol) and *Concerning Co-Operation in Combating Oil Spills* (Oil Spills Protocol) of the Cartagena Convention.
31. The following projects and activities are designed specifically to meet the objectives of the LBS Protocol, support its continued development, and assist countries in overcoming barriers to ratification, accession and implementation. Projects presented below include some that are on-going from the 2015-2016 Work Plan and proposed or new projects for the 2017-2018 biennium.
32. UNEP CAR/RCU will deliver its work under the AMEP sub-programme for 2017-2018 in the following thematic areas:
 - (a) Monitoring and Assessment;
 - (b) Waste Management; and
 - (c) National Programmes of Action for Pollution Prevention.
33. Support to other relevant pollution prevention and reduction activities such as Watershed Management and Wastewater Management will be provided through the development and/or implementation of ongoing and new projects financed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and through partnerships with other regional agencies and projects.

2. Projects and activities

A. Programme Coordination (USD 850,000)

Objectives

34. The objectives for Programme Coordination are to:
 - Coordinate and oversee the day-to-day implementation of AMEP projects and activities within the framework of the Cartagena Convention and Caribbean Environment Programme;
 - Ensure that the formulation and implementation of projects and activities satisfy the obligations of the LBS and Oil Spills Protocols;
 - Promote ratification of, accession to, and effective implementation of the LBS Protocol;
 - Enhance coordination, collaboration and communication with relevant government focal points, regional and international organizations in the development and implementation of AMEP projects and activities; and
 - Enhance involvement of LBS and Oil Spills RACs in the design and implementation of the overall programme, projects and activities.

Activities

35. The AMEP Programme Officer will continue to be responsible for coordination and supervision of the implementation of the programme activities for 2017-2018 with support from the AMEP/CETA Team Assistant and AMEP Programme Assistant. The Directors and staff of the LBS RACs will provide additional programme and technical support where appropriate.
36. In addition, for 2017-2018, the AMEP Programme Officer (PO) will continue to be responsible for the CETA sub-programme in the absence of a CETA Programme Officer. In that regard, the AMEP PO will assist in the supervision of a Computer/Information Assistant. Further assistance to the CETA sub-programme will be provided through interns and short-term consultancies.
37. The AMEP Programme Officer will supervise staff hired to support the implementation of the GEF IWeco project at the offices of UNEP CEP.

38. The AMEP sub-programme will support activities that promote the ratification and implementation of the LBS Protocol during 2017-2018. These will build upon resource materials prepared during the last biennium including fact sheets, promotional videos, info-graphics and technical papers. Where funding for projects and activities is limited, priority will be given to those countries that are Parties to the LBS Protocol and/or are in the final stages of the ratification process. The Secretariat will continue to support national consultations for LBS Protocol ratification through country missions and local workshops. As with previous national sensitization workshops for the LBS Protocol, the LBS RACs will play a major supporting role to the LBS focal points in organizing these workshops and acting as facilitators and technical experts. To assist in the process, all non-contracting parties will be contacted before the third Conference of Parties for the LBS Protocol to identify the main difficulties being experienced in ratifying the Protocol and possible response measures.
39. The AMEP sub-programme will develop and strengthen linkages with key regional partners as well as collaborate with existing regional projects dealing with the management of environmental pollution. This will be done through MOUs and other cooperative agreements.
40. The AMEP sub-programme will provide direct technical support to major regional and international meetings to be convened during the biennium including the: (1) High-Level UN Conference to support the implementation of SDG 14 (UN Oceans Conference); (2) 4th Intergovernmental Review (IGR) for the UN Environment Global Programme of Action (GPA), (3) 3rd Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-3) and (4) Sixth International Marine Debris Conference (6IMDC) in 2018.
41. The following activities will be undertaken with the support of CETA:
 - (a) Implement campaigns to promote ratification and implementation of the LBS Protocol in the region based on the specific country challenges identified;
 - (b) Provide targeted support to overcome challenges by specific countries in the ratification and/or implementation of the LBS Protocol;
 - (c) Compile and disseminate knowledge, case studies and best practices from the GEF CReW and IWeco Projects and all activities and projects relating to the management of domestic wastewater, reduction of marine litter and the management of nutrients within the framework of the LBS Protocol as well as showcasing appropriate technologies for pollution prevention, reduction and control in the Wider Caribbean Region;
 - (d) Facilitate sharing of technical information, including the translation of existing training materials, case studies and resource material, into other working languages of the Wider Caribbean Region;
 - (e) Strengthen the framework for information management and data sharing in the Wider Caribbean Region through UNEP Live and the GEO Process;
 - (f) Establish partnerships with academic and research institutions to facilitate research on the sources and impacts of marine pollution, and in particular, on emerging issues such as microplastics;
 - (g) Support the UN Environment global campaign on marine litter titled Clean Seas. This will focus on non-recoverable plastics by working towards a ban on microbeads in cosmetics and a drastic reduction in the use of single-use plastics; and
 - (h) Support global efforts by UN Environment relating to pollution, oceans and habitat which will be featured during Oceans Conferences in 2017 and the next United Nations Environment Assembly.
42. The major projects and activities to be coordinated by the AMEP Sub Programme in 2017-2018 are highlighted below:
 - (a) Launch and begin implementation of the GEF CReW+ project to upscale and/or replicate GEF CReW subject to approval by the GEF Secretariat;
 - (b) Implementation of the GEF IWeco project;
 - (c) Mobilize funding for implementation of pilot projects on marine litter within the framework of the updated RAPMaLi, the Caribbean Node for Marine Litter co-hosted by UNEP CEP and GCFI, and the Global Partnership on Marine Litter;

- (d) Coordinate the further development of the Caribbean Platform for Nutrient Management developed under the GPAs Global Partnership on Nutrient Management (GPNM). This will include the mobilization of financial resources for implementation of the two year work plan as well as supporting the development of additional regional and national projects on nutrient management and for the control of agricultural non-point sources of marine pollution within the Wider Caribbean Region;
- (e) Support the development and implementation of related projects and activities by partner agencies including by UNEP ROLAC on environmental indicators, UNEP DEWA on UNEP Live, OECS on oceans governance, CARPHA on coastal zone management, UNDP on the Catalyzing Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Sustainable Management of Shared Living Marine Resources in the Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems (CLME+), WWF on the GEF Meso-American Barrier Reef project, IAEA on establishing an early warning network to detect and respond to toxic events affecting the marine environment of the Caribbean and IOC on the ongoing development of the Caribbean Marine Atlas – Phase 2;
- (f) Support the implementation of relevant recommendations pertaining to the work of the AMEP sub-programme from the International SIDS Conference held in Samoa in October 2014 and relevant Sustainable Development Goals and associated Targets;
- (g) Promote the further ratification and implementation of the LBS Protocol;
- (h) Strengthen collaboration with RAC REMPTIC and IMO to provide Contracting Parties with technical assistance relating to the remediation of oil contaminated sites, management of oil contaminated wastes, the use of dispersants in oil spill responses, and the control of pollution from ships in general;
- (i) Complete the development of the State of Convention Area Report for the Wider Caribbean Region; and
- (j) Continue to facilitate greater integration of the AMEP and SPAW Work Programmes and subject to funding, convene additional joint LBS and SPAW meetings and capacity building workshops.
43. The Secretariat will convene the 4th Meeting of the LBS STAC and 4th Meeting of the LBS COP in 2017 where the AMEP Programme Officer will present the AMEP Draft Workplan and Budget for the Biennium 2018-2019, for endorsement and/or approval in keeping with the objectives of the LBS Protocol and regional priorities.
44. Table 1 presents the main objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of success for the AMEP sub-programme for the 2017-2018 biennium. These have been developed taking into account the related objectives for UNEP’s Programme of Work for 2015-2016 and 2017-2018 and relevant SDG targets.

Table 1: Objectives, Expected Accomplishments and Indicators for AMEP

Objective: 1. To strengthen the ability of Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol to implement pollution reduction and prevention measures				14.1,14.3, 14.a, 14.c
<i>Expected Accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of Achievement</i>	<i>Related UNEP Sub-Programme(s)</i>	<i>LBS Protocol Obligations</i>	<i>Relevant SDG Targets</i>
Increased use of the ecosystem-based management approach in countries to prevent, reduce and control pollution thereby sustaining ecosystem services from coastal and marine ecosystems.	(i) Increase in number of countries that have progressed in integrating ecosystem-based management approaches into sectoral and national development planning processes, strategies and action plans. (ii) Increase in number of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthy and Productive Ecosystems 	Article III	1.4, 1.5, 2.4, 6.2, 6.3, 6.5, 6.6, 9.1, 11.5,11.6, 12.2,13.1, 13.2, 14.2 14.7,15.1, 15.5

	countries adopting action plans to reduce marine litter, untreated wastewater and nutrient discharges into the marine environment.			3.3, 3.9, 6.2, 6.3, 6.5, 12.5, 14.1
<i>Expected Accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of Achievement</i>	<i>Related UNEP Sub-Programme(s)</i>	<i>LBS Protocol Obligations</i>	<i>Relevant SDG Targets</i>
Increased use of pollution prevention and reduction tools and innovative/appropriate technologies to protect human health and reduce degradation of selected priority ecosystems.	(i) Increase in number of countries developing and using tools, technologies and management practices for pollution prevention and reduction leading to reduced degradation of coastal and marine ecosystems and improved delivery of ecosystem services at national and regional levels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy and Productive Ecosystems • Resource Efficiency and Sustainable Consumption and Production • Chemicals and Waste 	Articles III, VI, VII	1.4, 1.5, 2.4, 3.3, 3.9, 6.3, 7a, 8.4, 9.4, 12.2, 12.4, 12.5, 14.1, 14.2, 14.3, 15.1, 15.5
Increased capacity of countries to develop and implement local and/or national plans of action for pollution prevention, reduction and control.	(i) Increase in number of countries developing and implementing local and national pollution reduction plans including national monitoring and assessment programmes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy and Productive Ecosystems • Environmental Governance • Chemicals and Waste 	Articles III, VI, VII, XII, XIV	3.3, 3.9, 6.2, 6.3, 9.4, 12.4, 12.5, 14.1, 14.2
Objective: 2. To empower stakeholders in their policy and decision making by providing scientific information and knowledge for the Wider Caribbean Region				
<i>Expected Accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of Achievement</i>	<i>Related UNEP Sub-Programme(s)</i>	<i>LBS Protocol Obligations</i>	
Enhanced regional and national decision-making and policy-making for improving the management of coastal and marine resources of the Wider Caribbean Region through increased generation, dissemination and use of quality data and information and participatory processes.	<p>(i) Increase in number and/or strengthening of partnerships for data and information management;</p> <p>(ii) Increase in number of countries, regional intergovernmental fora and institutions using data on environmental trends to take policy and/or other actions;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment under Review • Environmental Governance 	Articles V, X, XI, XIII	14.a, 17.16, 17.17
<i>Expected Accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of Achievement</i>	<i>Related UNEP Sub-Programme(s)</i>	<i>LBS Protocol</i>	

			<i>Obligations</i>	
Increased capacity and financing opportunities of states and other stakeholders to assess, manage and reduce risks to human health and the environment posed by land and marine-based sources of marine pollution and associated activities including from chemicals and wastes.	Increase in the number of countries using available tools, mechanisms, strategies, technologies and decision-support systems for monitoring, analysis, evaluation and dissemination of environmental data and information including for improved awareness and decision-making;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment under Review • Environmental Governance • Chemicals and Waste 	Articles VI, VIII	8.3, 12.8, 12a, 14.1, 14.2, 14.a

45. The following provides a summary of new and on-going projects for the 2017-2018biennium.

B. Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Projects

Proposed Project

i) An integrated approach to wastewater and harmful chemicals management using innovative technical solutions and promoting financing mechanisms through the Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management (CRew+) (new)
Total Project Budget (IDB & UNEP): USD 286, 873,075 - estimated (Includes cash, in-kind and loan co-financing)
Total GEF Funds (IDB & UNEP): USD 15, 712, 385 - estimated
Total GEF Funds (UNEP): USD 3 million - estimated
Biennium Budget (UNEP): USD 1.0million - estimated
Time Frame: 4 years (2017 - full-size project preparation; 2018 to 2020 - project implementation, subject to GEF approval)
Scope: Regional - Barbados, Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Panama, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Cuba, Colombia, Mexico, Dominican Republic, Grenada, St Kitts and Nevis
Partners: Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Caribbean Development Bank (CDB),
LBS Protocol Articles/Annexes: Articles III, V, VI, VII, X, XI; Annex III;
Website: www.gefcrew.org

Objective

46. The main objective of GEF CRew+ is to implement and demonstrate additional cost-effective, innovative financing and technological solutions for the management of wastewater that can be up-scaled and replicated to significantly reduce the negative impact of toxic substances, including harmful chemicals and waste, on the environment and people of the WCR. While providing support that will further strengthen the enabling environment, the project will also identify more context-specific solutions which address the challenges of wastewater management in a more holistic manner using integrated approaches. It will also aim to create value out of “used water”, based upon the protection of water sources through wastewater treatment.

47. The project is proposed to have five main project components focusing on Integrated Water and Wastewater Management, namely:

- Component I: Framework reform (institutional, policy, legislative and regulatory)
- Component II: Development of sustainable & tailored financing options (urban and rural)
- Component III: Development of innovative financing mechanisms & infrastructure

- Component IV: Implementation of solutions (small-scale local and rural community-based)
Component V: Knowledge management and advocacy

Introduction

48. In order to continue the important work started under GEF CReW, which helped participating countries move closer to compliance with the Land-based Sources of Marine Pollution (LBS) Protocol, UNEP CEP and the GEF CReW Project Coordinating Group are working on a full-sized, follow-on project, short titled “CReW +”. A Project Identification Form (PIF) was developed by UNEP CEP and the GEF CReW Project Management Unit and submitted to the GEF Secretariat for consideration in July 2016. This is now being revised for resubmission by the end of 2016. Subject to GEF approval, the full proposal document will be submitted in early 2017. The draft Project Identification Form (PIF) is provided as an Information Document for the Meeting – UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.14.
49. The GEF CReW+ Project will build on a solid baseline of technical understanding of wastewater treatment and practical examples of success garnered from five years of implementation activities in 13 countries of the WCR. The project will stimulate and assist previous and additional participating countries to identify and obtain innovative funding mechanisms and technological solutions that suit their scale and needs and are replicable and sustainable.
50. The ambition and scope of the GEF CReW+ Project has been significantly enlarged over GEF CReW. There is greater recognition of the risks associated with vector borne diseases and emerging contaminants, and of the complex, multi-sectoral nature and number of stakeholders already involved and impacted by the sector.

Activities

51. The main activities to be undertaken under each project component and the proposed budget breakdown is provided in the table below.

Project Components & Related SDGs	GEF Project Financing	Co-Financing
Component I Reforming institutional, policy, legislative and regulatory frameworks for Integrated Water and Wastewater Management	2,191,000	\$16,571,159
Component II Developing sustainable and tailor-made financing options for urban and rural Integrated Water and Wastewater Management	\$1,325,000	\$26,933,906
Component III Implementing small-scale local, rural community-based solutions for Integrated Water and Wastewater Management	\$7,756,944	\$165,449,909
Component IV Promoting environmentally-sound management practices of sludge containing POPs and harmful chemicals	\$2,534,232	\$57,148,800
Component V Knowledge management and advocacy, including the importance of water and wastewater management and chemicals and waste, to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals	\$1,157,000	\$8,890,410

Project Components & Related SDGs	GEF Project Financing	Co-Financing
Sub-total	\$14,964,176	\$274,994,184
Project Management Cost	\$748,209	\$11,878,891
TOTAL PROJECT COST (\$)	\$15,712,385	\$286,873,075

On-going Project

ii) Integrating Water, Land and Ecosystems Management in Caribbean SIDS (IWEco) (ongoing)
Total Project Budget: USD 88,739,763 (Includes indicative cash and in-kind co-financing of USD 68,017,191)
Total GEF Funds: USD 20,722,572
Biennium Budget (UNEP): USD 11,641,626
Time Frame: 5 years (2015-2020)
Scope: <i>Regional:</i> Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, The Bahamas, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica, St Kitts and Nevis, St Vincent & the Grenadines and Trinidad & Tobago
Partner Agencies: UNDP, CARPHA, GEF Small Grants Programme, LBS RACs
LBS Protocol Articles/Annexes: Multiple Articles; Annexes III and IV;

Objective

52. To implement an integrated approach to water, land and ecosystems services management, supported by policy, institutional and legislative reforms, and implementation of effective, appropriate technologies to accelerate contribution to global targets on access to safe and reliable water supplies and improved sanitation, and contributing to improved ecosystem functioning in the Caribbean.

The project is proposed to have four main project components, namely:

- Component I: Development and implementation of integrated, innovative approaches to sustainable land management (SLM)
- Component II: Strengthening of SLM, ecosystems monitoring and indicators framework
- Component III: Strengthening capacity for ecosystems services management (institutional, policy, legislative and regulatory)
- Component IV: Enhancing knowledge exchange, best-practices, replication and stakeholder involvement

Introduction

53. The challenges Caribbean SIDS face on account of small landmasses, vulnerable economies, heavy dependence on external energy resources, with rising populations, means that concerted efforts must be made to transform the concept of sustainable development into realistic practice. It is widely accepted that SIDS will be more directly affected by climate change than other regions in terms of scope and intensity of impact. Governments must therefore continue to hasten the process to safeguard the natural resource base so that communities and ecosystems can be more resilient to the impacts of climate change. Despite progress made on several fronts, many barriers remain with respect to water, land, and biodiversity resource management and for the implementation of relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements such as the Cartagena Convention and LBS Protocol. The GEF IWEco Project will build on the work of prior initiatives, most directly the GEF-IWCAM Project for which UNEP CEP was the lead co-executing agency, to remove these barriers.
54. Small Island Developing States (SIDS) have particular needs and specific issues in relation to sustainable development and the environment. The targets endorsed through the United Nations Conference on Sustainable

Development - RIO+20, the SAMOA Pathway Outcome Document and the Sustainable Development Goals which are most pertinent to this project include:

- (a) The need to accelerate the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action and SAMOA Pathway;
 - (b) The need to provide support for the development and implementation of freshwater programmes and work on marine and coastal biodiversity;
 - (c) Implementation of the GPA (Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities) in SIDS to prevent, reduce and control waste and pollution;
 - (d) The need to provide support for capacity building to reduce and manage waste and pollution and for maintaining and managing systems to deliver water and sanitation services;
 - (e) The need to address Integrated Water Resource Management targets;
 - (f) The need to develop and implement ecosystem-based management approaches, including integrated land management and water-use plans, and strengthen the capacity of governments, local authorities and communities to monitor and manage the quantity and quality of land and water resources;
 - (g) The need to promote programmes to sustainably enhance land productivity and water-resource efficiency in agriculture, forestry, wetlands, artisanal fisheries and aquaculture, especially through indigenous and local community-based approaches; and
 - (h) The need to provide direct support to countries in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on water and sanitation (SDG 6), climate change (SDG 13), oceans (SDG 14) and land resources (SDG 15) while contributing to several other SDGs including reducing poverty and improving quality of life.
55. Six of the participating countries have ratified the LBS Protocol, which entered into force in August 2010. Contracting Parties now have obligations to meet with respect to domestic wastewater and pollution discharges into the coastal areas of the region. As such, support (from the GEF) to address these obligations will be timely and meaningful to deal with critical environmental management actions under the jurisdiction of the Protocol.
56. The proposed project would have various immediate socio-economic benefits for local communities. Coastal reforestation and prevention of habitat destruction, such as protection of mangroves, will be crucial for ecosystem-based adaptive strategies that reduce vulnerability of human coastal communities to climate change. Halting the decline of coastal ecosystems would also secure and generate economic revenue, food security and improve livelihoods in the coastal zone. Adoption of sustainable development strategies will also provide long-term economic opportunities for coastal communities around the region. Specifically, project activities would facilitate the possible increased investment in these SIDS, as a result of improved watershed management regimes, improved access to clean water, and improved management of coastal resources. Injection of revenue into national and local economies will enhance efforts to protect valuable ecosystem services that are useful for long-term sustainable development. Local communities and women's groups would be involved in the design and implementation of small-scale interventions to ensure their equitability and sustainability. Regionally, this project would provide the methodologies and processes for Caribbean SIDS to evaluate the value of their land, water, and coastal resources and to incorporate these results into their national plans of action for environmental protection and their national economic development plans.

57. The main activities to be undertaken under each of the project components include:

Project Component	Grant Type (TA/INV)	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Indicative Financing from relevant TF (GEF/LDCF/SC CF) (\$)	Indicative Co financing (\$)
Component C1 - Development and Implementation of Integrated Targeted Innovative, climate-change resilient approaches in SLM, IWRM (including WUE), ICZM and maintenance of ecosystem services	TA	Outcome C1.1 Measurable stress reduction at project sites through appropriate sustainable water, land and ecosystems management interventions that account for climate change.	Output 1.1.a. Installed watershed protection and restoration measures	1,480,543	1,980,591
			Output 1.1.b. Installed riparian restoration solutions, particularly upstream of surface water sources and recharge zones	655,800	1,209,257
			Output 1.1.c. Installed restoration measures within forest/mangrove estuarine and coastal areas, especially in high risk areas for storm inundation	1715420	3,635,633
			Output 1.1.d. Installed effluent management (water reuse, recycling) and pollution reduction measures for commercial/industrial entities, agricultural and settlement areas	1,173,685	1,392,778
			Output .1.1.e. Conservation and restoration measures for increasing native and endemic population species abundance and diversity	2,983,390	8,376,464

Project Component	Grant Type (TA/INV)	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Indicative Financing from relevant TF (GEF/LDCF/SC CF) (\$)	Indicative Co financing (\$)
		Outcome C1.2 Enhanced livelihood opportunities and socio-economic co-benefits for targeted communities from improved ecosystem services functioning	Output 1.2.a. Augmented water supply systems employing rainwater harvesting within critically water-stressed communities	50,500	50,000
			Output 1.2.b. Upgraded water supply systems for delivery and greater access to safe water supply within critically water-stressed communities	15,800	503,104
			Output 1.2.c. Employment and revenue generation opportunities by communities and private sector associated with project activities (SGP)	1,245,000	1,755,770
			Output 2 Strengthened national monitoring systems	1,424,500	5,121,524
			Output 3 Strengthened national policy, legislation and enhanced capacity	960,390	5,091,953
			Output 4 Knowledge products, tools and methods	598,386	1,394,620
Component C2 - Strengthening of the Sustainable Land Management (SLM), Integrating Water Resources Management (IWRM) (and Water Use Efficiency (WUE)) and ecosystems Monitoring, and Indicators framework	TA		Outcome C2.1 Strengthened national and regional systems for monitoring of environmental status with respect to key international agreements	Output 2.1.1 Regional environmental indicators compendium	132,910
		Output 2.1.2 Scientific research protocols and studies to support monitoring at national projects		639,252	3,693,350
		Output 2.1.3. Installed field monitoring and assessment capabilities		265,810	2,712,125
		Output 2.1.4 Decision support system (DSS) tools		265,810	1,572,825

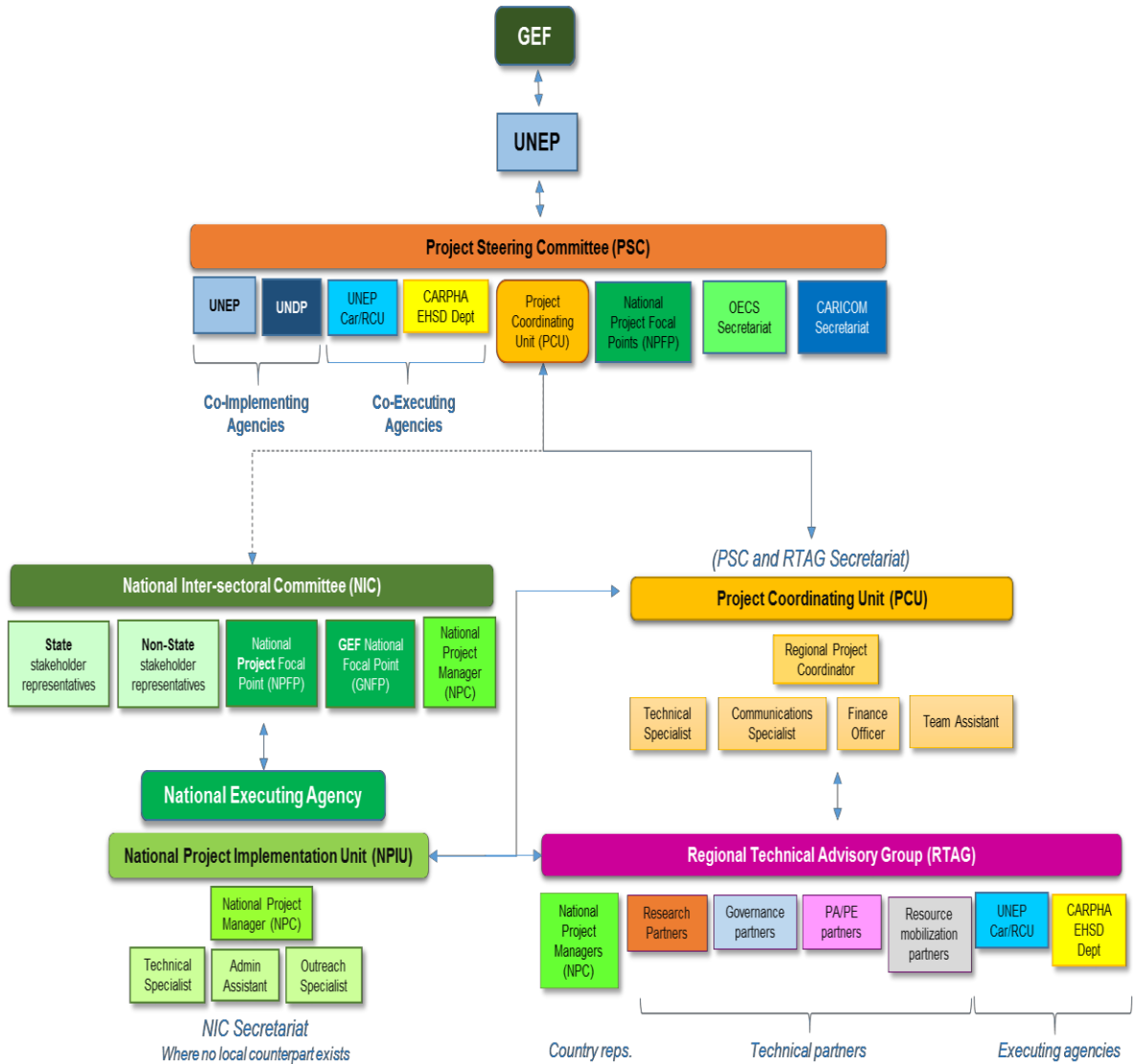
Project Component	Grant Type (TA/INV)	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Indicative Financing from relevant TF (GEF/LDCF/SC CF) (\$)	Indicative Co financing (\$)
Component C3 - Strengthening of the Policy, legislative and institutional reforms and capacity building for Sustainable Land Management (SLM), Integrating Water Resources Management (IWRM)/Water Use Efficiency (WUE) and ecosystem services management	TA	OUTCOME C3.1 Strengthened policy and legislation for the effective management of water, land and ecosystems resources that account for climate change	Output 3.1.1 New and/or revised national-level policies and regulations for water, land and ecosystems management	1,798,930	2,576,400
			Output 3.1.2 New and/or upgraded national and regional-level plans and strategies for improved water, land and ecosystems management	1,798,930	3,101,800
		Outcome 3.2 Strengthened capacity of national and regional institutions and other stakeholders for water, land, and ecosystems management that accounts for climate change	Output 3.2.1. Strengthened national participatory consultative and coordination mechanisms	416,188	2,012,400
			Output 3.2.2. Training and capacity building programmes to support implementation of water, land, and ecosystems management across government, private sector agencies and civil society organizations	1,027,960	3,920,400

Project Component	Grant Type (TA/INV)	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Indicative Financing from relevant TF (GEF/LDCF/SC CF) (\$)	Indicative Co financing (\$)
Component C4 - Enhancing knowledge exchange, best-practices, replication and stakeholder involvement	TA	Outcome C4.1 Improved engagement and information access for practitioners and other stakeholders through targeted knowledge sharing networks	Output 4.1.1. Public awareness / Public education (PA/PE) Strategy for the regional and national project components	28,300	1,310,960
			Output 4.1.2. Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) assessments during the project	28,300	597,000
			Output 4.1.3. Best practice guidelines, Lessons learnt outputs and Communities of Practice	307,811	1,981,000
			Output 4.1.4. Innovative communications and learning tools	226,370	2,800,540
			Output 4.1.5. Project website (according to IW:LEARN guidelines) and media products	154,070	1,595,500
			Output 4.1.6. Professional exchanges; participation at regional and international fora	99,040	1,760,500
			Output 4.1.7. 7 th GEF-International Waters Conference	345,930	290,000
			Output 4.1.8. Two GEF-IWEco Project Partnership Conferences	198,074	1,204,500
Subtotal				20,037,099	65,933,191
Project Management Cost (PMC)				535,473	1,927,703
Monitoring & Evaluation (MTE/TE)				150,000	156,297
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS				20,722,572	68,017,191

The complete project document is provided as an Information Document for the Meeting – UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.9

Project Management

58. UNEP and UNDP will be co-implementing the project with UNEP being the lead co-implementing agency. UNEP CEP and CARPHA will be co-executing agencies with UNEP CEP being the lead co-executing agency.



iii) Reducing Marine Litter in the Caribbean Sea through the Sustainable Management of Plastics in the Wider Caribbean Region (new)
Total Project Budget: TBD
Time Frame: 5 years (2017-2022)
Scope: <i>Regional</i> :
Partner Agencies: IDB
LBS Protocol Articles/Annexes: Multiple Articles; Annexes III and IV; MARPOL Annex V

Introduction

59. According to the United Nations Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (GESAMP), land-based sources account for 60 – 80% of the world’s marine pollution¹. This is consistent with work undertaken in the Caribbean from beach surveys and clean-ups, indicating that the dominant source of marine litter is land-based².
60. The continuous increase in solid waste generation, both from land-based activities as well as marine-based activities, coupled with the slow rate of degradation of many discarded materials, are leading to a gradual increase in marine litter found at sea, on the sea floor and coastal shores. Due to the increase in generation, waste plastics are becoming a major stream in solid waste.
61. Plastic waste is the third largest contributor to municipal and industrial waste in cities. Due to increasing demand for use in plastic packaging, water bottles and other goods, global plastic production rose from 204 million tonnes in 2002 to 299 million tonnes in 2013³. This increase has turned into a major challenge for local authorities responsible for solid waste management and sanitation.
62. Plastic marine litter has the potential to persist in the marine environment for long periods, to travel considerable distances, and to accumulate in habitats far from its point of origin. This makes it a growing transboundary global problem that recognises no national borders and spreads from coasts to open oceans and Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ).
63. The proposed project reflects the increased focus on reducing marine litter pollution in the WCR. This proposal will be further developed and submitted as a PIF to the GEF Secretariat for consideration. The draft PIF is included as Information Document UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.18.
64. The five components of the overall project are:
- Component I: Establish enabling conditions for addressing plastics in the waste stream
 - Component II: Build capacity to initiate/refine policies and practices related to national plastic waste management
 - Component III: National interventions (including national/regional pilots)
 - Component IV: Networking, communication, stakeholder and community engagement
 - Component V: Up-scaling /replication

¹ GESAMP 1991, *The State of the Marine Environment*, and UNEP, 2006, *The State of the Marine Environment: Regional Assessments*

² UNEP 2006, *Marine Litter in the Wider Caribbean*.

³ Plastics – the facts 2014/2015, Plastics Europe, Brussels, Belgium.

C. **Monitoring and Assessment**

iv) State of the Convention Area for the Wider Caribbean Region (ongoing)
Activity Budget: USD 75,000
Scope: <i>Regional</i> - All WCR Countries
LBS Protocol Articles/Annexes: Articles VI, XII, XIV

Introduction

65. This activity will result in the development of the first State of the Convention Area Report (SOCAR) for the Wider Caribbean Region. The report will capture and present key information on the state of coastal and marine ecosystems within the WCR in terms of their current condition; the pressures and the drivers of those pressures; and an assessment of current environmental management initiatives. It is expected to serve as an operational tool that the Parties and other partner organizations can use to determine baseline conditions and priorities to be addressed in the region and to set targets for region-wide action.
66. The development of the SOCAR will mark the start of the reporting process that will occur in 4-year cycles. It is also expected to complement the development of a State of Habitat Report coordinated through the SPAW Protocol.
67. Financial support for the finalization of the SOCAR is being provided by the UNDP/GEF CLME+ and GEF IWEco Projects. In that regard, the SOCAR is expected to be further refined during the biennium to facilitate greater integration with the State of Habitat Report to be developed under the SPAW sub-programme.
68. The development of SOCAR will directly contribute to Output 5.2 of the UNDP/GEF CLME+ project which calls for the development of a prototype CLME+ ecosystem status and SAP implementation M&E mechanism. This will consist of the following three distinctive, complementary elements:
- Common, or compatible approaches and/or protocol(s) for the joint monitoring and assessment of overall SAP implementation (and CLME+ status and conditions);
 - “CLME+ SAP Monitoring & Evaluation” and “State of the Marine Ecosystems and shared Living Marine Resource in the CLME+” web portal(s) and reporting outline; and
 - Sustainability strategy/plan for the periodic updating of the report/portals beyond the CLME+
69. The further development of SOCAR will also assist in the implementation of sub-component 2 of the GEF IWEco Project on the Strengthening of the Sustainable Land Management, Integrated Water Resources Management (and Water-Use Efficiency) and Ecosystems Monitoring, and Indicators framework. The expected outcome is strengthened national and regional systems for monitoring of environmental status with respect to key international agreements including the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols. The four specific outputs under the GEF IWEco project to which SOCAR will be aligned to are:
- Output 2.1.1 Regional environmental indicators compendium
 - Output 2.1.2 Scientific research to support monitoring at national projects
 - Output 2.1.3. Strengthened field monitoring and assessment capabilities
 - Output 2.1.4 Decision support tools and system

Activities

70. The main activities to be undertaken include:
- (a) Collaborate with regional and international agencies, programmes and projects to facilitate activities that support regional assessments of the Wider Caribbean Region including consultations, workshops, presentations and publications. This will include collaboration with initiatives such as the development of the Caribbean Marine Atlas – Phase 2; UNEP Live and related GEO processes for the Latin American and Caribbean Region;
 - (b) Finalize SOCAR for the Wider Caribbean Region with technical support from LBS RACs and the Monitoring and Assessment Working Group and reach consensus among Contracting Parties on issues related to SOCAR such as sensitivity of data, classification of waters and monitoring parameters;
 - (c) Conduct a validation exercise with national focal points and relevant stakeholders on the data used to develop the SOCAR;
 - (d) Develop a communications strategy for sharing and dissemination of the results of SOCAR including development of policy briefs, info-graphics and new fact sheets;
 - (e) Identify opportunities and/or funding to support training to Contracting Parties in the Driver Pressure State Impact Response Methodology (DPSIR) which is being used as the methodology for the SOCAR and also the State of the Marine Environment (SOME) Report under the UNDP/GEF CLME+ project; and
 - (f) Develop new project proposal concepts based on data gaps and emerging issues identified in the final SOCAR.
71. UNEP CEP will continue its efforts to mobilize resources that will assist countries to conduct national coastal and marine monitoring and assessments and in the future development of the State of Convention Area Report. Specific attention will be given to try to improve country capacity to monitor the levels and impacts of microplastics, livestock wastes, mercury, mining wastes and agrochemical pollutants.

D. Waste Management

v.) Support to Caribbean Node for Marine Litter (ongoing)
Activity Budget: USD 120,010 (unfunded)
Scope: <i>Regional</i> - All countries
LBS Protocol Articles/Annexes: Articles V, VI, X, XI, XIII;

Objective

72. To enhance and operationalize the Caribbean Node for Marine Litter Management in support of the GPML and implementation of the RAPMaLi.

Introduction

73. Few sources of pollution affect a wider area or a larger number of people than marine debris. This environmental, human health and aesthetic problem can lead to serious economic losses for coastal communities, the tourism sector, the shipping and the fishing industries. The Caribbean region is poised to sustain substantial economic losses if current trends in environmental degradation continue.
74. UNEP CEP, through its role as co-host of the Regional Platform for Marine Litter, which it shares with the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI), and in collaboration with the GPA, developed five project concepts that

focus on: (1) Piloting marine litter reduction strategies for major Caribbean cultural/musical/sporting events – Carnival in Trinidad and Tobago; (2) Links between marine litter and the prevalence of mosquito-borne public health concerns; (3) The occurrence of micro-plastic in the intestinal tract of commercially exploited fish from Grenada; (4) Innovations and cost analysis of options for marine litter action; and (5) Regional assessment of marine litter initiatives in the Caribbean. The project proposal concepts are available as Information Document UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.13. UNEP CEP will focus in particular on sourcing funds for the activities relating to Innovations and cost analysis of options for marine litter action; and Regional assessment of marine litter initiatives in the Caribbean.

75. UNEP CEP, GCFI and the GPA will work to identify possible funding to implement these projects while identifying opportunities for the development and implementation of additional priority marine litter interventions. The CEP will also continue to promote the implementation of the updated Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAPMaLi) for the Caribbean, which was first endorsed at the 13th IGM, and use the RAPMaLi as the framework for supporting implementation of the Honolulu Strategy, the UNEP Global Partnerships on Waste and Marine Litter.

Activities

76. The main activities to be undertaken include:
- (a) To identify potential funding for the implementation, replication and/or upscaling of the five project concepts in collaboration with GCFI and GPA;
 - (b) Support the development and implementation of other projects for improving marine litter management in the Wider Caribbean Region with particular focus on solid waste and plastic reduction, re-use and recycling opportunities;
 - (c) Facilitate communication networking and outreach for the Caribbean Node, including building on existing educational and outreach material developed by UNEP CEP;
 - (d) Collaborate with UNEP-DTIE to support identification and implementation of pilot projects on solid waste management;
 - (e) Identify opportunities for enhanced collaboration with the SPAW sub-programme as it relates to impacts of marine litter on protected areas and wildlife;
 - (f) Identify resources to support carrying our inventory of solid waste and plastic generation in each of the countries of the Wider Caribbean Region as well as an assessment of the systems for collection, transportation, and disposal and to identify opportunities and challenges for improving these systems. This will include consideration for re-use, recycling and other waste management measures;
 - (g) Support the conducting of waste management audits in countries to include an assessment of how countries are currently managing their solid waste, including existing policies, laws and regulations, equipment and technologies, and disposal practices as well as identifying opportunities for recycling and/or reuse; and
 - (h) Establish synergies, where appropriate with the Plastic Bag Coalition launched by the Government of France.

vi.) Trash Free Waters in the Caribbean Initiative: Reducing Marine Litter by Improving Solid Waste Management (ongoing)
Activity Budget: USD 60,000
Scope: Jamaica and Panama (pilot countries)
Partners: United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), United States Peace Corps
LBS Protocol Articles/Annexes: Articles V, VI, X, XI; XIII and Annex V;

Objective

77. To support local actions to reduce land-based sources of trash in local communities and help national governments to take action in order to significantly reduce and prevent trash from reaching the Caribbean Sea.

Introduction

78. One of the challenges faced in the WCR is poorly developed solid waste management infrastructure which gives rise to waste streams that negatively impact inland waterways (including streams and gullies), as well as rivers, coastal communities, and marine ecosystems. This initiative will help Jamaica and Panama to control, reduce and prevent their land-based sources of trash/solid waste from entering waterways and polluting their coastal and marine environment by bringing stakeholders together to identify priority needs and develop projects and activities.
79. Jamaica and Panama are Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol. The successful implementation of the proposed projects and activities will therefore support both countries in meeting their obligations under the LBS Protocol to take measures to prevent, reduce, and control pollution of the Convention area.
80. UNEP CEP, in collaboration with the US EPA, will promote synergies and coordination between various ongoing solid waste and marine litter projects and activities, and assist each of the countries to develop a more integrated and cohesive approach to solid waste and marine litter management with a particular emphasis on local communities. These efforts will be supported by the US Peace Corps which will train its volunteers in Jamaica and Panama in the Trash Free Waters Approach so they can train and help their counterparts implement small scale projects within their local communities.
81. UNEP CEP will guide the process and work with NGOs, CBOs and other stakeholders in the region to help implement these solid waste/marine litter management projects. The partner agencies will also work to promote a more consistent message to stakeholders and the general public concerning solid waste management.
82. This initiative builds upon UNEP's Resource Efficiency efforts in the region to reduce waste generation in key sectors and promote the use of sound waste management tools with government agencies. As Secretariat for the Cartagena Convention and LBS Protocol, UNEP CEP will further support this effort to address marine litter reduction and prevention as presented in the Caribbean Regional Action Plan for Marine Litter Management (RAPMALi).
83. As co-host for the Caribbean Node for Marine Litter Management with the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI), UNEP CEP will work to ensure sustainability among the countries to address their solid waste management needs. The CEP will also ensure that this project and other efforts are coordinated, to result in improved synergies and a compilation of best practices guidance for comprehensive solid waste management solutions that can be shared throughout the region.
84. This guidance will be consistent with Basel Convention guidelines for environmentally sound management of waste, UNEP's Global Partnership on Marine Litter under the Global Programme of Action, UNEP's Global Partnership on Solid Waste, MARPOL Convention of the Control of Ship-Generated Wastes, including supporting the designation of the Caribbean Sea as a Special Area under Annex V dealing with the discharge of garbage, and other relevant multilateral agreements and initiatives focused on Sustainable Consumption and Production.

Activities

85. The main activities to be undertaken include:
 - (a) Support planning and development of at least two stakeholder dialogue workshops in each country with government agencies, civil society organizations and other stakeholders in order to identify solid waste management priorities and the most appropriate and cost-effective solutions to help prevent trash from entering waterways and the Caribbean Sea;
 - (b) Develop and implement a public participation toolkit designed for marine litter;

- (c) Disseminate outreach and education activities to media, civil society organizations, local and/or municipal government authorities to increase awareness about solid waste, its impacts on the environment and human health, and management measures including new livelihood opportunities;
- (d) Support pilot projects that are identified through the stakeholder dialogue process;
- (e) Share results of the pilot projects with regional stakeholders and make these available through the UNEP CEP website; and
- (f) Identify opportunities for upscaling and replication in other Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol including development of new project proposal concepts for possible funding. This will include efforts to strengthen partnerships between governments, civil society and the private sector.

E. National Programmes of Action

vii.) Applying innovation to reduce nutrient pollution from wastewater and agricultural discharges in waterways, coastal and marine environments of the Caribbean Sea
Project Budget: USD 235,000
Scope: Jamaica and Costa Rica
LBS Protocol Articles/Annexes: Annex III, Annex IV

Objectives

- 86. To demonstrate the deployment of innovative, economically-viable appropriate wastewater technologies for small coastal communities to foster uptake, replication and up scaled investment;
- 87. To demonstrate the deployment of best nutrient management practices in agriculture in the areas of nutrient conservation, recycling and use efficiency, with added benefit of integrating climate-smart approaches; and
- 88. To strengthen partnerships between on-site beneficiary groups, local and regional institutions to share best practices using the Caribbean Platforms for Nutrient and Wastewater Management.

Introduction

- 89. It is estimated that as much as 85% of wastewater entering the Caribbean Sea remains untreated. As coastal waters of WCR have been increasingly subjected to the detrimental impacts of pollution, the integrity of marine ecosystems is being compromised along with the quality of recreational waters – elements that are of great importance to the economies of all countries of the region in terms of tourism and fisheries.
- 90. UNEP CEP, in collaboration with the GPA, GPNM and GW2I, submitted a proposal to the US Department of State in July 2016 to secure funding to implement and demonstrate cost-effective, innovative solutions in Jamaica and Costa Rica that can be upscaled and replicated to contribute to mitigation of nutrient loading to the Caribbean’s coastal waters. The project is intended to target impacts resulting from agricultural and urban runoff and wastewater discharges within the two countries.
- 91. This project will build on the work of many initiatives in the region in the promotion of best practices and scalable technologies for nutrient load and wastewater diversion and treatment, and for the protection of water sources in the region (e.g., the GEF-funded projects Integrating Watershed and Coastal Areas Management (GEF-IWCAM) and Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater (GEF-CReW).

92. The project will target lower-income rural/coastal communities with low rates of wastewater collection and treatment that pose a threat to local marine environments.

93. The project is proposed to have four main components as outlined below:

- Component I: Investments in wastewater and nutrient discharge reduction
- Component II: Knowledge management
- Component III: Advocacy and awareness
- Component IV: Partnership building

Activities

94. The main activities to be undertaken under each project component are summarized below in the proposed Workplan Matrix:

Primary Activities, Deliverables, and/or Milestones	Year 1				Year 2			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8
C1. Investment								
1.1 Small-scale wastewater system								
1.1.1. On-site scoping	■							
1.1.2. Technical design	■	■						
1.1.3. Contractor selection and award		■						
1.1.4. Installation			■	■	■	■	■	
1.1.5. Operator training		■			■			■
1.1.6. Hand-over								■
1.2 Agricultural field runoff diversion								
1.2.1. On-site scoping	■							
1.2.2. Technical design		■						
1.2.3. Contractor selection and award		■						
1.2.4. Installation and training			■	■	■	■	■	
1.3 Nutrient use efficiency - fertilization and recycling								
1.3.1. On-site scoping	■							
1.3.2. NUE plan/programme implementation		■	■	■	■	■	■	■
1.3.3. Training		■			■			■
C2. Knowledge management								
2.1 Technical guideline on solutions application								
2.1.1. Conceptualize								
2.1.2. Draft content				■				
2.2 Lessons learned synopsis								
2.2.1. Draft content							■	■
2.3 Field monitoring tools procurement, guidelines								
2.3.1. Basic equipment procurement		■						
2.3.2. On-site training on use of facilities, tools and reporting (citizen science methods)		■	■					
2.3.3. Draft guideline content and validation		■						
2.3.4. Publication - printing and online dissemination		■	■	■	■	■	■	■
C3. Advocacy and awareness								
3.1 Short film								
3.1.1. On-site training in personal smart device filming (project personnel)		■						
3.1.2. Editing and production of submissions					■	■	■	■
3.2 Printed material								

Primary Activities, Deliverables, and/or Milestones	Year 1				Year 2			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8
3.2.1. Design and content contribution to (1) posters, (2) brochures in respective languages								
3.2.2. Printing of products and dissemination								
3.3 Town halls and seminars								
3.3.1. Convening of 4 special sensitization events at the project sites								
C4. Partnership building								
4.1 Partnership forum strengthening								
4.1.1 Hosting of 2 joint GPNM and GWI regional platform meetings - support at least 10 participant travel and venue hosting costs								
4.2 Meeting attendance								
4.2.1. Participants from projects attending CWWA, CAWASA, IICA, FAO, UNEP fora to report (4 meetings; 4 participants travel support)								

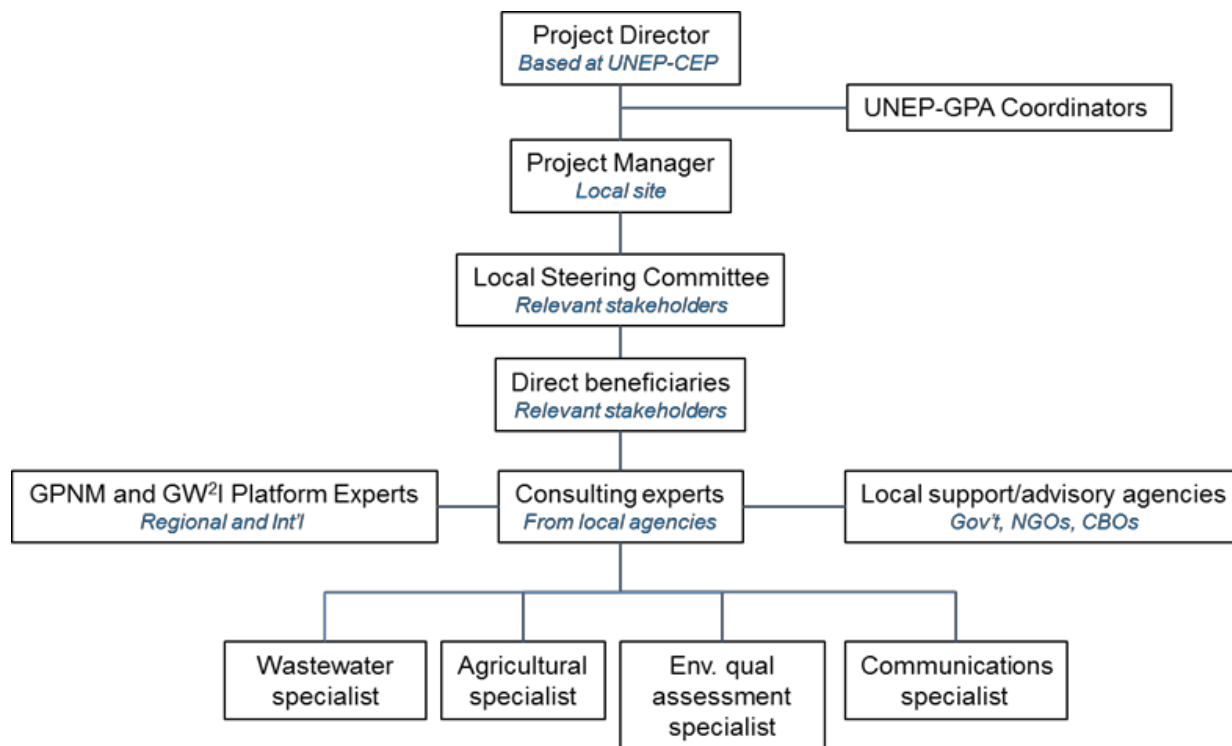
An indicative breakdown of the project cost is provided in the budget below:

		Requested Federal Funds
A	Personnel	24,000
B	Fringe Benefits	0
C	Travel	25,000
D	Equipment	0
E	Supplies	12,500
F	Contractual	69,775
G	Construction	86,000
H	Other Direct Costs	27,725
I	Total Direct charges	245,000
J	Total Indirect costs	0
K	TOTAL PROJECT COST	245,000
L	COST SHARE (if applicable)	30,000

The project proposal with detailed budget breakdown is provided as Information Document UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.15.

Project Management

95. UNEP CEP will be the lead executing agency. Details on the administrative arrangements that will support the proposed project are illustrated in the project organizational chart below.



viii) Support to Caribbean Platform for Nutrients Management (ongoing)
Activity Budget: USD 600,000
Scope: <i>Regional</i>
LBS Protocol Articles/Annexes: Annex IV

Introduction

96. Half the world’s food security depends on nitrogen and phosphorous and their use in fertilizer to grow crops. The nutrients released from fertilizers however, as well as from wastewater, aquaculture and other industrial and agricultural activities, have profound environmental impacts ranging from pollution of water supplies to undermining important ecosystems and the services and livelihoods they support. This apparent divide between society’s need for food and the adverse environmental impacts on the natural resource base, has led to a nutrients

challenge. This challenge is set to intensify as population grows and the demand for food increases, and as growing towns and cities produce more wastewater⁴.

97. Through collaboration with the GPA, UNEP CEP launched the Caribbean Platform for Nutrients Management (CPNM) in May 2013 to respond to the nutrient challenge faced by the WCR. The CEP will support the CPNM by serving as host of the platform and by working with governments, other UN Agencies, scientists and the private sector to identify ways to reduce the amount of excess nutrients in the WCR without hindering development.
98. UNEP CEP will promote the inclusion of actions related to nutrients management on the agenda of countries of the WCR and emphasize the communication of concerns, challenges and opportunities through the CPNM. This will be done by orienting the work of the CPNM so that it is consistent with Global GPNM work areas and can be harmonized with other regional platforms. The four main work areas proposed for the CPNM are (1) knowledge generation; (2) extension and technical services; (3) outreach and advocacy; and (4) governance, partnership and network development.
99. Within the framework of the UNDP GEF CLME+ project, the CEP will be supporting the development and implementation of activities linking the LBS and SPAW Protocols, and in particular, on work involving nutrients and habitat degradation.

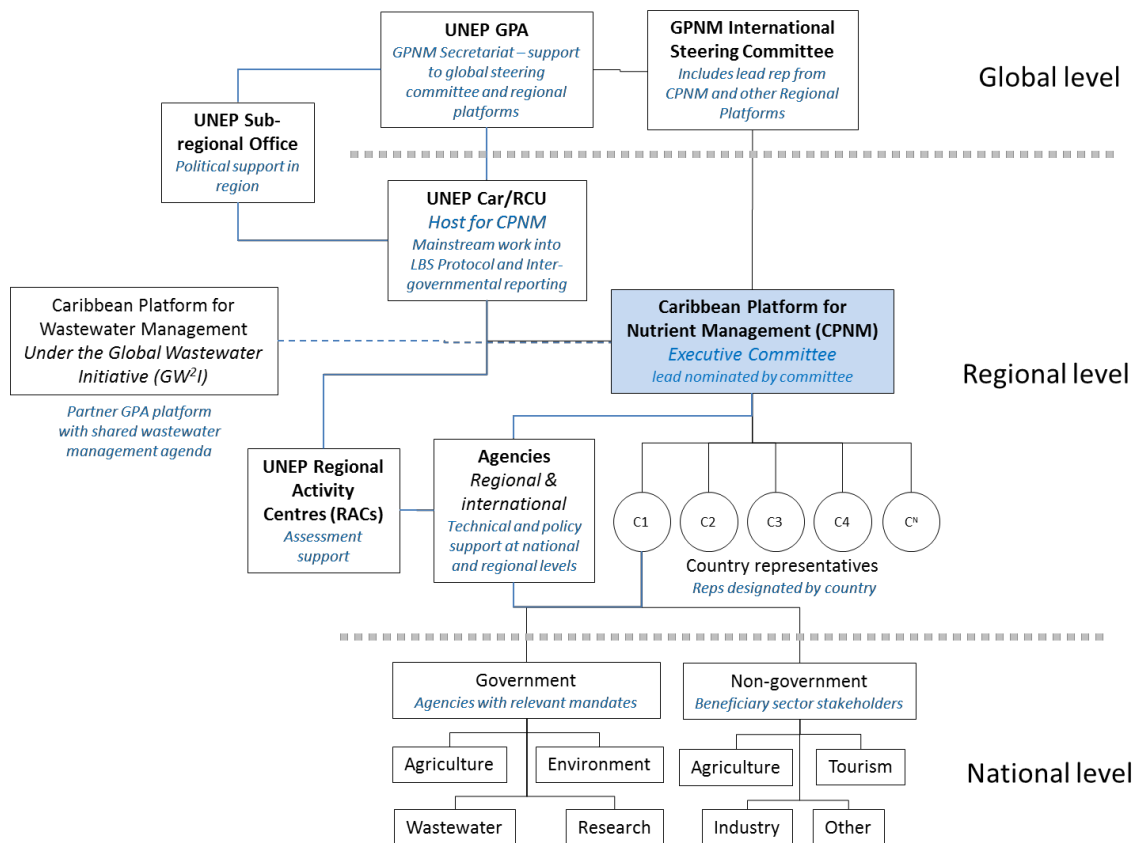
Activities

100. Some of the activities supported by the UNDP GEF CLME+ that will be facilitated by UNEP CEP through the CPNM include:
 - Development of a regional strategy and action plan on nutrients;
 - Preparation of baseline assessment reports on nutrients;
 - Development of regional investment plans for pollution, and in particular nutrients reduction; and
 - Development/implementation of an Ecosystem Based Adaptation (EBA) sub-project for the Southern Caribbean
101. Further details on the activities are available in the 2-year workplan included in Information Document UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.8

CPNM Structure

102. The proposed structure and organizational relationships of the platform, which emerged from the Second Regional Planning Meeting of the CPNM (February 2016), is outlined below:

⁴UNEP Fact Sheet: The Global Partnership on Nutrient Management (GPNM)



B. Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW)

103. The main activities of the SPAW Sub-programme are presented below. The outputs of the programme and more detailed information on activities can be found in document UNEP (DEPI)/CAR WG.38/6 entitled “Draft Workplan and Budget of the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) Sub-programme for the 2015-2016Biennium”. It is to be noted that the Workplan as presented below has not yet been reviewed nor prioritized by SPAW Parties at the time of preparation of this document. It is expected that the SPAW COP9 meeting will prioritize and streamline activities based on the most pressing needs and projected resources.

1. **Background**

104. During 2017-2018, the Workplan will focus on activities to assist with the implementation of the SPAW Protocol, coordinate with other regional programmes and institutions dealing with biodiversity conservation and management, particularly with regard to protected areas and wildlife and will include relevant global initiatives and multilateral environmental agreements.

105. The SPAW Protocol entered into force on 18 June 2000, and since the Sixth Meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP6), with the accession of The Bahamas and Grenada in 2012, to date, there are sixteen Governments that are Contracting Parties (The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, France, Grenada, Guyana, the Netherlands, Panama, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States of America and Venezuela).

106. The objectives of the SPAW Sub-programme are to:

- (a) Significantly increase the number of, and improve the management of, national protected areas and species in the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR);
 - (b) Support the conservation of threatened and endangered species and the sustainable use of natural resources to prevent them from becoming threatened and endangered;
 - (c) Develop a strong regional capability for the coordination of information exchange, training and technical assistance in support of national biodiversity conservation efforts; and
 - (d) Coordinate activities with the relevant international biodiversity treaties and initiatives such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar), the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), the Convention on the International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Inter-American Sea Turtle Convention (IAC) and the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI), together with its global networks.
107. This Workplan seeks to ensure the continuation and expansion of the initiatives and tasks emanating from the 2015-2016 SPAW Workplan. The CEP Secretariat prepared this document taking into consideration the decisions and recommendations of previous SPAW meetings (COPs and STACs), and issues pertinent (regionally and globally) to the objectives of the SPAW Protocol and Sub-programme, as well as inputs from partners.
108. The Workplan consists of five major programme elements:
- (a) Programme Coordination;
 - (b) Strengthening of Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean Region (including training and capacity building for protected area management);
 - (c) Development of Guidelines for Protected Areas (PAs) and Species Management;
 - (d) Conservation of Threatened and Endangered Species; and
 - (e) Conservation and Sustainable Use of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems (including coral reefs and EBM activities).
109. The Workplan also aims to promote and integrate the principles of the Ecosystem-based Management approach (EBM) into the development and planning processes of countries in order to address the degradation of selected priority ecosystem services, as identified by the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Programme, and likewise to respond through biodiversity conservation and the sustainable use of coastal resources to sustainable development issues within the region, as appropriate. The EBM proposes a holistic approach that has proven to be more effective in the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems than the sectoral and biome-based approaches which have led to the loss of biological diversity and productivity, fragmented habitats, and an overall decline in ecosystem services critical for human well-being. This approach is also supported by other Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) such as CBD and the Ramsar Convention.

2. Projects and Activities

A. Programme Coordination

Objectives

110. (a) Promote the ratification of, accession to, and effective implementation of the SPAW Protocol;
- (b) Ensure that the formulation and implementation of programme activities satisfy the requirements and needs of the SPAW Protocol and its Contracting Parties;
- (c) Develop coordination, collaboration, and communication mechanisms with other agreements, organizations and programmes relevant to SPAW objectives;
- (d) Improve coordination of regional programming for protected areas and wildlife in the Wider Caribbean; and

- (e) Oversee the day-to-day activities and general coordination of the various projects and activities of the SPAW Programme.

Activities

111. During the 2015-2016 period, the day-to-day implementation and coordination of activities will be overseen by the SPAW Programme Officer, who is responsible for the overall coordination of the SPAW Programme and Protocol Secretariat functions, with support from the SPAW Programme Assistant.
112. Additional support to meet the objectives of this sub-programme will be received from the SPAW Regional Activity Centre (SPAW-RAC), which is located in Guadeloupe and supported by the Government of France. Since early 2009, SPAW-RAC has been hosted by the National Park of Guadeloupe. The functioning costs of the RAC are covered by the French Ministry of Environment, including salaries for: a Director, one Senior Project Coordinator/ Assistant Director and one Administrative Assistant. The team is currently supplemented by four short-term staff, which includes one Senior Project Coordinator, two Junior Project Managers and one Administrative Assistant. The salaries for two of these posts are covered through two (2) specific projects: the Voluntary Scheme for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Territories of European Overseas (BEST III) and ECMAN; the other two by the French governmental fund SPAW-RAC will continue to support the Secretariat with various activities, especially the coordination of actions mandated by COP9, the coordination of the process of Protected Areas listing under SPAW, the implementation of priorities under the Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Mammals in the Wider Caribbean Region (MAMAP) and the review and translation of a number of documents (See 2.1.3 below).
113. Additional support will be provided by the Coordinator of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Managers Network and Forum (CaMPAM)
114. The main responsibilities and functions discharged in the implementation of the SPAW Protocol and Programme are:
- (a) Coordination with relevant programmes, donors and organizations to develop synergies and collaborate on issues of common interest, as appropriate;
 - (b) Support implementation of existing memoranda of cooperation (MoCs) and of collaborative arrangements with relevant MEAs and initiatives: CBD, CMS, Ramsar, IAC, MARFund, WHMSI, as well as the IWC following the signature of the MoC in 2017;
 - (c) Continue implementation of the SPAW Protocol and development of its supporting regional sub-programme through:
 - Formulation of the Workplan and Budget for the 2019-2020 biennium;
 - Convening and servicing the SPAW COP9 in 2017 and the Eighth STAC in 2018;
 - Promotion of the SPAW Protocol through presentations at relevant fora, communication with Governments; and
 - Public awareness campaigns to engage and support additional Parties, and improve implementation of projects under the sub-programme.
 - (d) Continue fundraising with relevant governments, donors and organizations, including exploring the feasibility of additional fundraising options.

SPAW Regional Activity Centre, Guadeloupe, supported by the Government of France

115. Joint programming and fundraising of relevant activities and coordination will continue as appropriate with SPAW-RAC during the biennium, specifically:

- Continue the listing process of Protected Areas under the SPAW Protocol with relevant Contracting Parties, as appropriate, with the web-based tool and further develop the cooperation for listed protected areas;
- Support the implementation of the MMAP with specific emphasis on the MMAP's Priority Actions: Five-Year Plan (MMAP-PA), 2008-2013, that have yet to be implemented;
- Support species conservation, with particular emphasis on sea turtles and migratory birds, in collaboration with WIDECAST, SCSCB and BirdLife International;
- Continue to provide guidance on the use of the Guidelines to Assess Exemptions under Article 11(2), (UNEP(DEPI) CAR WG.36/5), as well as the Draft Reporting Format for Exemptions (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/3);
- Continue to cooperate with relevant institutions on the Invasive Alien Species (IAS) issue, as well as with the relevant partners to assess and merge information and best practices on combating the *Sargassum* influx (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.12 and UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.14);
- Continue the process of review of the species listed under Annexes I-III of the SPAW Protocol, in collaboration with relevant organisations as appropriate
- Prepare and disseminate quarterly releases of the SPAW newsletter and regularly update the SPAW-RAC website with information on, and the outputs of, SPAW activities;
- Participate in and/or support regional projects of relevance for the SPAW Workplan; and
- Promotion of the SPAW Protocol and its objectives to assist with further developments as mandated by the Parties, fundraising and the ratification by non-Parties.

Proposed Budget (indicative)

Activity	2017			2018		
	CTF	Other Sources*	Total	CTF	Other Sources*	Total
Salary of Programme Officer and Assistant (SMs)	180,000	10,000	190,000	200,000	10,000	210,000
COP9 and STAC8 preparations and travel of SMs	40,000	5,000	45,000	30,000	5,000	35,000
TOTAL (USD)	220,000	15,000	235,000	230,000	15,000	245,000

*Includes funding from France through SPAW-RAC for RAC's website, SPAW newsletter, translations, etc. and funding from the CLME+ Project

Note: 1) The Operational costs of the SPAW-RAC (salaries, travel, communication) are covered directly by the Government of France;

2) Additional support for COP9 and STAC8 to be raised.

B. Strengthening of Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean Region (USD 2,119,000) (60,000 unfunded from CTF)

Objectives

116. (a) Strengthen the management of parks and protected areas of the Wider Caribbean, including the communication between parks and protected areas within the region;
- (b) Assist Governments and non-governmental organizations with the development of human capacity to increase the effectiveness of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), both sites and national system;
- (c) Sensitize Governments of the need and importance of financing protected areas, and to promote the development of funding mechanisms and strategies for successful park and protected area management; and
- (d) Promote protected areas in the context of conservation of important natural resources necessary for the sustainable development of the region.

Activities

117. The day-to-day implementation of activities under this sub-programme will be overseen in collaboration with the CaMPAM Coordinator. Support for CaMPAM activities will also be provided by SPAW-RAC. Major projects will include many of the activities under this component as described in the paragraphs below:

- The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/GEF funded project “Catalysing Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Sustainable Management of Shared Living Marine Resources in the Caribbean and North Brazil (CLME+)” is a 5 year (2015-2019), USD12.5 million project that seeks to facilitate ecosystem based management (EBM) and an ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF) within the CLME+. The project will be implemented by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) with the activities within the Caribbean region supported by the SPAW and Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution (AMEP) sub-programmes(UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.5).
- Strengthening of MPAs through CaMPAM will be addressed through the implementation of years 2-3 of the project “Biodiversity for Sustainable Development in the Caribbean” (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.8). The €1,350,000 three-year project is funded by the Directorate for the Environment within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy. Its overall objective is to “enhance the livelihood of the populations of the WCR by contributing to the conservation and sustainable management of coastal and marine biodiversity through the application of the EBM approach”.

118. Activities to be implemented during the biennium have been structured under the following objectives and will be subject to further review based on the findings of the CaMPAM evaluation (2010-2015) (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.6):

Strengthening of MPAs (prioritising MPAs listed under the Protocol):

The activities described below will be delivered through CaMPAM and will be aligned, as appropriate and feasible, to support the cooperation programme for the SPAW listed sites which will be reactivated during the biennium as described under 2.3.2.1. The long-term vision is to have the SPAW sites cooperation programme fully integrated within CaMPAM and all SPAW MPA related activities.

(a) *Continue to update and deliver the Training of Trainers (ToT) programme on MPA management.*

119. Under the EBM project, at least one more 12 day regional course for MPA practitioners will be held and will emphasize topics such as:

- promoting sustainable financing, business planning and alternative livelihoods;
- evaluating and restoring coastal ecosystem services (fisheries, shoreline protection, tourism);
- application of Decision Support Systems (DSS) in the coastal environment context (pilot project developed in 2016 for Puerto Plata-Montecristi, Dominican Republic; other pilots planned in 2017-2018);
- the development of effective communication tools;
- training on effective enforcement practices; and
- the involvement of community stakeholders in MPA management.

120. The course (tentatively set for late 2017) will be held for English-speaking countries (the 2016 course was held for Spanish-speaking countries in the Dominican Republic focusing on EBM principles). Due consideration will be given to the possibility of having practitioners from French and Dutch Caribbean territories attend this course, as appropriate.

(b) *On-going implementation of the Small and Medium Grants Programme to address specific MPA needs.*

121. CaMPAM, in coordination with TNC, will finalise its responsibilities under the ECMMAN project (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.5). Through the project MPA funding was provided to 6 Eastern Caribbean countries (Antigua and Barbuda, St. Kitts and Nevis, Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and

Grenada) to enhance MPA effectiveness in at least 10 existing marine management areas or MPAs. Final reports from each of the countries will be submitted by March 2017.

122. Through the project “Biodiversity for Sustainable Development in the Caribbean” (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.8), the following grants are planned in support of MPAs:

- Strengthening of integrated management capacities in another 2 SPAW listed-sites. These pilot projects, aim to improve their management effectiveness through the use of an EBM approach, which will contribute to a more integrated conservation and sustainable management programme for the coastal and marine biodiversity within, and around, the MPA; the active involvement of, and improved livelihoods of, the local communities and the use of tools, such as the DSS developed during 2016 for the Dominican Republic.
- As a product of the above-mentioned DSS, development/enhancement of integrated Management Plans for the pilot area of Montecristi-Puerto Plata in the Dominican Republic and additional areas of SPAW Parties, to be selected in 2017, to increase both its biodiversity conservation effectiveness, as well as its pivotal role in the sustainable development of communities living within the relevant ecosystems’ user areas and service areas framework.
- Technical skills of relevant institutional staff, including the cadre of MPA mentors, are further developed to provide adequate institutional capacity to handle and update the datasets, run the DSS, and implement the management plans and monitoring described above.

(c) *Continuation of the mentorship programme and network to support MPA practitioners.*

123. Seek to provide continued support to mentees within the Mentorship Programme by mentors assisting the Training of Trainers (ToT) programme and reviewing grant requests submitted under the Small Grants Programme. This will allow mentors to continue to provide mentees with support and help with the continued development of their capacity building skills.

Enhance network of MPA practitioners by improving communication and the dissemination of information

(a) *Improve the effectiveness of the existing CaMPAM Internet Forum and website.*

124. Based on a 2016 analysis of the CaMPAM internet forum and website (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.6) both will be improved to ensure accessibility and ease of use in order to encourage the participation of members. The forum will also be redesigned to encourage open and interactive discussions between members and to enhance linkages between MPA managers. The annual meetings at GCFI (see below) will also be used more proactively to facilitate interactions and additional information sharing between MPA practitioners.

(b) *Continue to support MPA-related sessions and the participation of MPA practitioners at the annual GCFI Conferences (2017 and 2018).*

125. CaMPAM will aim to support 10-12 participants, primarily from SPAW listed sites, to attend the MPA sessions organised by CaMPAM at GCFI meetings each year. This will facilitate discussions on emerging issues and promote the exchange of information among managers, fishers and scientists to ensure on-going collaborations and participation amongst stakeholders.

Continued development, maintenance and promotion of the Regional MPA Database

(a) *Integration of the Regional Database of Marine Protected Areas into a regional system for strategic/operational planning for the MPAs of the WCR, as well as assist with overall steering and monitoring of CaMPAM.*

126. With support from the “Biodiversity for Sustainable Development in the Caribbean” project the MPA database will be enhanced to make it more accessible and relevant for managers, more useful for DSS efforts and to address

interoperability issues with other data sets (including the World Protected Areas Database) and with the SOME/CLME+ and SOCAR processes on the status of the Wider Caribbean marine environment. Partners will include La Sapienza University of Rome, Italy, GCFI, IUCN/BIOPAMA, the University of the West Indies, Reef Check Dominican Republic (RCDR), The Nature Conservancy, UNEP-WCMC and governmental environmental management agencies and marine protected areas, as well as NGOs working at site, nation and transboundary levels.

Synergies with national and international MPA initiatives and efforts

127. CaMPAM will continue to contribute, as feasible, to national MPA initiatives related to marine conservation science, management and policy, and exchanges that improve MPA effectiveness, as well as coordinate with relevant international efforts. This will include collaboration with regional and international organisations such as the Caribbean Challenge Initiative (CCI) and the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF), TNC's Caribbean biodiversity programme, the Caribbean Biological Corridor, MARFund, and internationally the Mediterranean MPA network to support transatlantic collaboration among MPAs, as well as the implementation of strategies that assist with Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 and the upcoming International Congress on Marine Protected Areas (IMPAC 4).

Proposed Budget (indicative)

Activity	2017			2018		
	CTF	Other Sources	Total	CTF	Other Sources	Total
CaMPAM Coordination and travel	0	10,000 ¹	10,000	0	10,000 ¹	10,000
Strengthening of MPAs						
ToT courses	0	60,000 ²	60,000	0	60,000 ²	60,000
Small Grants and DSS demonstration pilots	0	246,507 ³	246,507	0	0	0
Mentorship network	0	10,000 ¹	10,000	0	0	0
Development of a strong network of MPA practitioners by improving communication and the dissemination of information						
CaMPAM Internet Forum	0	20,000 ¹	20,000	0	15,000 ¹	15,000
Support MPA Sessions at GCFI Conferences (2017 and 2018).	0	33,600 ³	33,600	0	33,600 ³	33,600
Development, Maintenance and Promotion of the Regional MPA Database						
Regional MPA Database	0	30,000 ¹	30,000	0	0	0
TOTAL (USD)	0	410,107	410,107	0	118,600	118,600

¹Includes funding provided by the Biodiversity for Sustainable Development in the Caribbean project.

²Includes funding from SPAW-RAC, as well as other sources

³Approximate amount converted from Euros to US using the conversion rate €1:US1.12

C. Development of Guidelines for the Management of Protected Areas and Species

Objectives

128. (a) Promote and assist with the development and implementation of the guidelines on protected area (PA) establishment, management, and listing developed under the framework of the SPAW Protocol;
- (b) Promote national system planning for protected areas as a mechanism for development of relevant legislation and reporting mechanisms; and
- (c) Promote and assist with the development and implementation of guidelines on species conservation and management under the framework of the SPAW Protocol.

Activities

Activities to be implemented during the biennium include:

Listing of Protected Areas under the SPAW Protocol and Cooperation Programme

129. A call to Parties to list their protected areas will be made, and support to sites will be explored in line with the cooperation programme following the recommendations of the First Meeting of Managers of the Protected Areas Listed under the SPAW Protocol (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.36/INF.9). All sites listed will be asked to revisit these recommendations, identify additional gaps, areas for in-kind support and set priorities. The activities below could be considered, pending the availability of support and resources to reactivate the cooperation programme:
- (a) Initiate a discussion or “working group” among interested Parties and sites on the practical elements that should be included to make the cooperation programme more operational, useful to managers and the sites needs; as well as to incentivise sites to be listed by demonstrating the value added provided by the cooperation programme.
- (b) Review and assess the PAs listed between 2010 and 2016 by SPAW Parties with regards to any changes to their status and initiate development of a reporting format on the status of the listed sites. In this regard, Parties may learn from the experience in the Mediterranean Barcelona Convention and other relevant treaties, such as the World Heritage Sites Convention of UNESCO.
- (c) Develop a matrix with general data for relevant species to determine level of connectivity of conservation issues, in particular relevant to key common species and habitats and biological populations among sites.
- (d) The hosting of a group of managers from other SPAW sites by the Dry Tortugas and Everglades Protected Areas, or other additional sites.
- (e) Continue updating the map (Annex III of UNEP(DEPI) IG.37/4) of listed sites, with a view as well to assist with the visual connectivity within the region and seek to have the map linked to Google Earth.
- (f) Create a brochure on the SPAW listing process and listed sites.
- (g) Continue building the dedicated spaces for each SPAW PA using the SPAW website and CaMPAM database (“factsheets”) and sources of information on biological connectivity (see UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.5).
- (h) Explore the development of “sister sites” among the protected areas listed (see example under activity 2.4.2.1 (d)).
- (i) Continue with the dedicated section of the SPAW-RAC Newsletter to the SPAW listed sites and CaMPAM activities.

- (j) Use GCFI or other existing fora for meetings of SPAW listed site representatives, (tentatively GCFI 2017 and 2018).
- (k) Support protected areas and invasive species management

Criteria for the Assessment of Exemptions to Article 11(2) of the SPAW Protocol

130. Following SPAW STAC7 (2016) and COP9 (2017), it is expected that the Working Group on Criteria and Procedure to Assess Exemptions under Article 11(2) of the SPAW Protocol will be requested to continue its work and, as such, the following activities are proposed:

(a) Application, through pilot activities, of the formats for presenting exemptions and reporting on their implementation to the Contracting Parties.

The Guidelines to Assess Exemptions under Article 11(2) of the SPAW Protocol (UNEP(DEPI) CAR WG.36/5) and the proposed reporting format (UNEP(DEPI).IG.37/3 and UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/3 Rev 1) will be tested, in specific cases, by Parties to allow for the development of any necessary revisions to ensure their successful application. Results for these case studies could further assist in the refinement of the reporting format, to provide further clarity on the concepts of possible impacts and mitigation and/or corrective measures, among others.

(b) Assist Governments to formulate their requests for exemptions under Article 11(2).

Provide assistance to Contracting Parties in the preparation of their reports to request exemptions under Article 11(2) (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/3) and produce guidance on the application and assessment of the criteria “Resilience and Connectivity”.

The Working Group expanded at STAC7 will assist with a preliminary analysis of exemptions which according to the Protocol, should be reported to the STAC, as well as with the collection and review of exemptions reports from Parties. The Working Group will also initiate discussion on the reporting and process to follow-up on the implementation of exemptions as per the Guidance document (UNEP(DEPI) IG.37/3).

(c) Develop a strategy to ensure that Parties considering exemptions under Article 11(2) take the appropriate measures to facilitate and adhere to these exemptions.

Contracting Parties under their national laws and policies should ensure that these specimens or their offspring do not unintentionally end up being commercially traded in the future.

Listing of Protected Species under the SPAW Protocol

Based on the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group a number of species were added to Annexes II and III of the SPAW Protocol and the list is now updated (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/4). Additionally, for all species listed as entire groups under the Protocol, each species will be included individually, such species included under as a group like corals and marine mammals. In order to allow for any additional modifications to the annexes, the continued assessment of species is recommended.

<i>Proposed budget (indicative)</i>						
Activity	2017			2018		
	CTF	Other	Total	CTF	Other	Total
Sources*			Sources*			
Listing of Protected Areas under the SPAW Protocol						
Support to cooperation programme of listed protected areas	0	-	0	0	-	0
Criteria for the Assessment of Exemptions to Article 11 of the SPAW Protocol						
Assist Parties to formulate their requests for exemptions under Article 11(2)	0	-	0	0	-	0
Strategy development	0	-	0	0	-	0
Listing of Protected Species under the SPAW Protocol						
Listing assessment	0	-	0	0	-	0
Total	0	-	0	0	-	0

* In-kind support being explored from partners.

D. Conservation of Threatened and Endangered Species (USD 267,000) (USD 20,000 unfunded)

Objectives

131. (a) Build consensus in the region on priorities for the management of endangered and migratory species;
 (b) Implement priority activities of existing species recovery and management plans developed under the framework of the SPAW Protocol;
 (c) Develop, as appropriate, adequate management plans and programmes for priority species of regional concern, including those of economic importance; and
 (d) Address the growing threat of invasive alien species (IAS) that could negatively impact SPAW species and WCR habitats, especially marine or coastal IAS.

Activities

132. In keeping with the Workplan and Budget for the 2015-2016 biennium and priorities identified for implementation by SPAW Parties and the Secretariat (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.36/6) the proposed activities for implementation during the 2017-2018 biennium will focus on migratory species including marine mammals and sea turtles, as well as support the control / management of lionfish and *Sargassum*.

Conservation of Marine Mammals- Implementation of the Marine Mammal Action Plan (MMAP)

133. In keeping with the priorities identified at SPAW COP8, the progress made to-date with activities implemented since the adoption of the MMAP in 2008 (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.36/INF.18), and the achievements under the LifeWeb project "Broad-Scale Marine Spatial Planning of Mammal Corridors and Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean and Southeast and Northeast Pacific" (<http://www.spain-unepporpas.org/-marine-mammal-corridors-a-critical-habitats-.html>; <http://www.car-spaw-rac.org/?Scenarios-for-marine-mammal>) (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.36/INF.8), the following is being proposed for implementation pending the availability of resources:

- (a) **Improve awareness of, collect data on, and mitigate the effects of, ship strikes and entanglements on whale and dolphin species in the Wider Caribbean Region in collaboration with the International Whaling Commission (IWC).**

- Implement recommendations from the joint IWC and SPAW/UNEP Workshop to Address Collisions and Training Workshops (Mexico 2013 and St. Martin 2013) to Address Lethal Human Impacts on Marine Mammals of the Wider Caribbean;

(b) Strengthening marine spatial planning for marine mammal conservation

- Provide support for the development of transboundary marine mammal monitoring efforts to address data gaps identified during the LifeWeb project (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.36/INF.8) in collaboration with other organisations and based on readily available information, namely but not exclusively:
 - Consider participating in a biopsy campaign to identify contaminants (pesticides, polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB), and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) levels in marine mammals of the WCR if funding becomes available through (CARI'MAM project, co-supported by Agoa, the new French Biodiversity Agency and SPAW-RAC); and
 - Participate in development of a common strategy for acoustic monitoring and to disseminate scientific knowledge on this topic.
- Support and promote transboundary cooperation initiatives at the sub-regional and regional levels, exploring with relevant countries (namely Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands, British Virgin Islands) the further development of a marine mammal management scenario (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.16).

(c) Follow-up to stranding workshops

Continue to reinforce local stranding network capacities, particularly in the Marine Mammal Conservation Corridor South East America (MamaCocoSea) area, further to the sub-regional stranding workshops held in 2005, 2009 and 2010 Support a regional repository on stranding data and develop a network of country coordinators for marine mammal strandings for the region modelled on WIDECAST and facilitated by dedicated regional coordinators with national focal points.

(d) Support marine mammal networking among protected sites, education, and awareness.

In collaboration with the North Atlantic Humpback Whale Sister Sanctuary Program (NAHW-SSP) (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.16) partners and the NGO environmental community, support activities under the "Jump with Whales" project:

- Continued support to an intern training programme based at Allied Whale and the Center for Coastal Studies to determine the origins of shared humpback whale populations and facilitate research on the migration patterns of the North Atlantic Humpback Whale;
- Support to the on-going collection of humpback whale flukes information/pictures throughout the WCR by yachters under CARIBTail (<http://www.caribtails.org>);
- Continued education of students throughout the WCR on photo-identification techniques and their importance through the Humpback Whale Guardians project;
- Promotion of outreach and education programmes aimed at increasing awareness on ocean noise and its impacts on marine mammals (Voices in the Sea) and migration patterns (Animals Without Passports); and
- Development and design of activities for the "Year of the Humpback Whale" between 2019-2020 celebrating SPAW's Marine Mammal Protected Areas Network;
- Participate in CARI'MAM initiative, if funding becomes available, available;
- Improvement and / or development of common tools for the network of marine protected areas dedicated to the conservation of marine mammals for management and evaluation purposes

(e) Support sustainable marine mammal watching in the Wider Caribbean Region.

Following the recommendations of the Regional Workshop on Marine Mammal Watching in the Wider Caribbean Region, Panama, 19-22 October 2011 and the priorities identified by participants (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.34/INF.9), the following activities are being proposed:

- Promote the national and regional implementation of the Overarching Principles and Best Practice Guidelines for Marine Mammal Watching in the Wider Caribbean Region (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.13) in order to develop a respectful long-term economic opportunity for the observation of marine mammals across the Caribbean;
- Develop a regional database and clearing house for marine mammal watching data; and
- Identify the equipment needed, and the costs associated, to collect data during marine mammal watching tours, in an effort to provide tour operators with the necessary equipment.

(f) Develop a strategy to implement the Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between the UNEP Caribbean Regional Coordinating Unit (CAR/RCU) and the International Whaling Commission (IWC) that will support issues and activities identified above, among others.

Conservation of sea turtles (in collaboration with WIDECAST)).

134. The following activities will be given priority during the biennium:

- (a) Support the elaboration of Sea Turtle Recovery Action Plans (STRAPs) in countries that do not have plans.
- (b) Support existing STRAPs through the implementation of national priority actions, in particular the provision of training as it relates to educators (teacher training), law enforcement officers, veterinarians and first responders.
- (c) Collaborate further with the IAC on STRAP development and other sea turtle activities in the Workplan to ensure that work is not duplicated.
- (d) Continue to promote standard guidelines and criteria for Index Site monitoring at sea turtle foraging grounds in the WCR and provide training for nesting beach and in-water population monitoring.

Support to regional invasive alien species efforts in collaboration with relevant partners, particularly with regards to the lionfish invasion and greater collaboration with CITES towards enforcement on illegal trade of species

135. Following the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)/CITES Regional Wildlife Enforcement Workshop (20-22 July 2016), coordinate with these partners, SPAW Parties and regional organisations on the development of the regional wildlife enforcement network. Efforts will also be made to ensure that Parties and NGOs work within their respective spheres of influence such as the European Union and CARICOM to urge the other Parties to regulate within their national legal systems the:

- Ownership, possession, sale and advertising of CITES-listed living species endemic to the Caribbean; and
- Keeping of illegally acquired specimens, and their progeny, from entering domestic or international markets

136. The countries that are Parties to CITES should join the CITES Standing Committee contact group and SPAW Parties and NGOs should support recommendations emanating from the contact group.

Sharing general data across the Region and research on *Sargassum*

137. Improved response coordination and information sharing between countries throughout the region on how to control the brown algae *Sargassum*. Specific activities implemented through SPAW-RAC will include the:

- Facilitation of a UNEP-CEP/SPAW-RAC on-line *Sargassum* forum to facilitate the sharing of regional data;
- Coordination of data sharing on the management and impact of *Sargassum* in the wetlands with the Caribbean Wetlands Regional Initiative Secretariat;
- Organisation of a regional workshop on the management of *Sargassum* landings;
- Coordination of *Sargassum*-related projects and events throughout the WCR;
- Development and sharing of informative documents for the general public, governments, coastal managers, and others concerned by the issue: regional management best recommendations guide.
- Provision of research support for projects on *Sargassum*'s origins, impacts and control methods; and

- Coordination of a cohesive *Sargassum* response amongst the CEP Secretariat and Secretariats of the Abidjan Convention, UNEP GPA and other UNEP Programmes involved in assessing *Sargassum* landings in the WCR and West Africa.

Proposed Budget (indicative)

Activity	2017			CTE	2018	
	Other Sources	Total	Other Sources		Total	
Conservation of Marine Mammals						
MM education and awareness	0	15,000 ¹	15,000	0	15,000 ¹	15,000
Support to the Agoa Initiative	0	29,480 ²	29,480	0	29,480 ²	29,480
Lionfish Control						
Support of the Regional Lionfish Committee	0	33,600 ³	33,600	0	0	0
Data Sharing and Research on <i>Sargassum</i>						
Data Sharing and Research on <i>Sargassum</i>	0	40,588 ⁴	40,588	0	40,588 ⁴	40,588
TOTAL	0	118,668	118,668	0	85,068	85,068

¹In-kind contributions from SBNMS, the Center for Coastal Studies and Whale and Dolphin Conservation

²Includes \$25,000 for the Cari'Mam project and €4,000 to Allied Whale using the exchange rate €1:US1.12

³Approximate amount converted from Euros to US using the conversion rate €1:US1.12

⁴Includes funding from France through SPAW-RAC

E. Conservation and Sustainable Use of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems

Objectives

138. (a) Assist with the management of the coastal and marine ecosystems of the region on a sustainable basis, particularly through sustainable practices;
- (b) Mobilize the political will and actions of Governments and other partners for the conservation and sustainable use of coral reefs and associated ecosystems such as mangroves and seagrass beds;
- (c) Effectively communicate the value and importance of coral reefs, mangroves and seagrass beds, including their ecosystem services, the threats to their sustainability, and the actions needed to protect them; and
- (d) To promote the ecosystem management approach and the principles and values of good governance for the conservation and management of marine ecosystems in the region.

Activities

139. Proposed activities to be implemented during the biennium will continue to focus on coral reef ecosystems and the CLME+ project (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.5). The activities are also in support and aligned with ICRI's Action Plan and the recommendations emanating from its General Meeting in November 2016, in particular regarding the coral reef monitoring network (GCRMN), climate change and coral reefs and ICRI's "Call for Action" Proposed activities will include:

Conservation of Coral Reefs

- (a) Continued reactivation of the Caribbean coral reef monitoring network under the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCMRN- Caribbean) (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.36/INF.10). The activities will include the:
- Promotion and implementation of the Regional Guidelines for Coral Reef Biophysical Monitoring (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/ INF.17) and the Regional Guidelines for Socioeconomic Indicators;
 - Design and promotion of a user-friendly format for the Regional Guidelines for Biophysical Coral Reef Monitoring (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/ INF.17) and the Regional Guidelines for Socioeconomic Indicators;
 - Development of a communication strategy and tools;
 - Representation and promotion of the guidelines at relevant fora;
 - Implementation of capacity-building activities such as workshops and small grant funding for field work ;
 - Development of a coastal risk prevention and adaptation to climate change initiative promoting coral reef conservation as mitigation measures, if funding is available through CaribCoast project under development by SPAW RAC;
 - Explore implementation of initiatives promoting an environmentally friendly diving and snorkelling industry in areas populated. If funding is available, the CEP secretariat would be more inclined to help the countries already working with the GCRMN (e.g. international Green Fins initiative).; and
 - Promotion and participation in the celebration of 2018 as the International Year of the Reef
- (b) Implementation of the Bluefinance project in collaboration with the Bluefinance Economics for Coral Reef Ecosystems (ECRE) and UNEP, through its Global Coral Reef Partnership. The Bluefinance project aims to achieve environmental, social and financial returns through strengthened collaborations with the private sector on coral reef conservation. The project will be implemented with the SPAW-RAC, in partnership with GRID-Arendal, the Blue Solutions project, the French Initiative for Coral Reefs (IFRECOR) and interested SPAW Parties. The activities aim to :
- Establish sustainable financing mechanisms for marine managed areas (MMAs) , possibly in the Bahamas, Antigua and Barbuda , St. Kitts and Nevis and continue to support the Blue finance business plan in Barbados ;
 - Develop an innovative co-management structure based on public-private partnership agreements and a Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) scheme for finance management.
 - Develop Guidelines for Coral Reef Environmental Impact Assessment and Compensation Schemes
 - Complement on-going EBM/DSS activities at selected sites, developed under CaMPAM and the EBM project (see project activities above under 2.2.2 and 2.5.2.3 below), as well as under the CLME+ project (see selected activities immediately below)

“Catalysing Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the Sustainable Management of Shared Living Marine Resources in the Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems (CLME+)”.

140. UNEP-CEP, through its AMEP and SPAW sub-programmes will continue to collaborate with partners, as appropriate, in the implementation of the 5-year UNDP/GEF CLME+ project. The CLME+ Project is supported by the GEF through a financial contribution of US\$12.5 million. Co-financing commitments for the implementation of the CLME+ Project is expected to amount to approximately US\$110 million.
141. The GEF co-funded CLME+ Project (2015-2019) will contribute to the improved and sustainable governance and management of shared living marine resources (sLMR) in the CLME+ region during the first 5 years of the SAP’s implementation. With a grant of US\$1,365,000 SPAW and the AMEP sub-programmes will be implementing activities under the SAP (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.5) including:

- Enhanced coordination between the arrangements for the implementation of the SPAW and Land Based Sources of Marine Pollution (LBS) Protocols under the Cartagena Convention and an agreement between CEP and Brazil to involve that country in areas relevant to the goals of CLME;
- Development of a “Regional Strategy and Action Plan for the valuation, protection and/or restoration of key marine habitats in the CLME+”
- Implementation of pilot projects demonstrating the transition to an EBM approach at the sub-regional/site level in the CLME+;
- Development of a baseline and (pre-) feasibility assessment report on the needs and opportunities for investments for the enhanced protection and restoration of key habitats;
- Development of an investment plan for large-scale action on habitat protection and restoration, with special attention to habitats of critical importance in terms of current and potential future provisions of ecosystem goods and services and contributions to Global Environment Benefits; and
- Development of a “SAP Implementation Monitoring & Evaluation” and “State of the Marine Ecosystems and shared Living Marine Resources in the CLME+” web portal (or set of portals) and report outline).

EBM wider application

142. Through the Italian-funded project “Biodiversity for Sustainable Development in the Caribbean” (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.8), and in collaboration with UNEP’s Ecosystems Division, a regional EBM capacity-building workshop will be organised in early 2017. The four-day interactive training workshop will include the application of marine spatial planning frameworks and cross-sectoral engagement across environment, fisheries, energy, tourism and other sectors, including the application of a DSS. The workshop will include lectures and plenary discussions introducing EBM principles and solutions, synthesis of good practices from practical experiences, scenario-building exercises and the design of follow-up training activities and EBM demonstration projects. Participants will include mid-level planners and decision-makers from relevant ministries and agencies from the WCR.
143. The EBM demonstration projects emanating from the Workshop, or otherwise, will build from the lessons-learnt from the DSS activity in the Dominican Republic (see Activity 2.2.2 (b)) and consider other on-going projects of CEP or partners in an effort to build synergies and maximise resources and results. For example, projects could build from the Blue Finance project above, the TNC/USAID Caribbean marine biodiversity programme, national and regional GEF projects etc.

Implementation of the BEST Initiative (SPAW-RAC Project)

144. The BEST Initiative aims to support conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use of ecosystems services in Overseas Countries and Territories of the European Union. Countries eligible for funding and project implementation under the BEST Initiative are Aruba, Bermuda, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, St. Eustatius, St. Maarten, Anguilla, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos, British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands and St. Barthélemy. Activities proposed for the 2017-2018 biennium, with funding from IUCN, include:
- Monitoring of four medium-sized grants:
 - Invasive alien species in UK overseas territories;
 - Sea turtle conservation in Anguilla;
 - Coral reef restoration in Dutch Overseas territories; and
 - Establishment of Aruba’s first marine park
 - Monitoring of approximately 10 small-sized grants for projects related to biodiversity conservation and ecosystems services sustainable use. This will include, non-exhaustively, coral reef conservation, iguana conservation, Endemic tree restoration and lionfish management.
 - Organisation of a third Call for Small Grant projects, selection process and monitoring of selected projects

Conservation of wetlands/mangroves

145. In collaboration with the Caribbean Wetlands Regional Initiative (Cariwet), and implemented by SPAW-RAC, the proposed activities are designed to promote the conservation and sustainable use of mangroves. The proposed activities include:

- Facilitating collaborations with Cariwet and the Ramsar Regional Centre for Training and Research on Wetlands in the Western Hemisphere (CREHO) to develop under the CaMPAMToT workshops/seminars on the management and protection of wetlands;
- Design and implementation of a project on Sargassum impacts within a Ramsar Site in Grenada;
- Coordinate with interested Parties developing proposals for grants to identify synergies with the SPAW sub-programme, particularly with respect to the 31 SPAW listed sites;
- Explore linkages with the Wetlands for the Future Fund for the development of training and capacity building workshops ; and
- Explore the development of a coastal risk prevention and adaptation to climate change initiative promoting mangroves conservation as mitigation measures if funding available through the CaribCoast project (under development by SPAW RAC).

Proposed Budget (indicative)

Activity	2017			2018		
	CTF	Other Sources	Total	CTF	Other Sources	Total
Conservation of Coral Reefs						
Reactivation of the GCRMN Caribbean and support to countries monitoring	0	68,500 ¹	68,500	0	68,500 ¹	68,500
Implementation of the Bluefinance project	0	106,500 ²	106,500	0	106,500 ²	106,500
Implementation of the CLME+ SAP³						
Agreement between the SPAW and LBS Protocols and a MoC between CEP and Brazil	0	28,397	28,397	0	23,478	23,478
Regional Strategy and Action Plan	0	68,608	68,608	0	30,238	30,237
Pilot project demonstrating EBM transition	0	165,750	165,750	0	118,250	118,250
Baseline and (pre)-feasibility assessment report	0	50,769	50,769	0	0	0
Development of investment plan	0	26,500	26,500	0	30,606	30,606
Development of web portal(s)	0	74,977	74,977	0	20,696	20,696
BEST Initiative⁴						
BEST Implementation	0	224,000	224,000	0	0	0
Conservation of wetlands/mangroves						
Development of ToT workshops	0	30,000	30,000	0	0	0
Sargassum project	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	844,001	844,001	0	398,268	398,268

¹Includes funding from France through SPAW-RAC and other contributions to be sourced

²Includes expected funding from UNEP

³Funding through the CLME+ project

⁴Funding received from IUCN at an exchange rate of €1.12: US\$1

Budget of the AMEP Sub-Programme for the 2017-2018 Biennium

Activity/Project	Budget (2017-2018)			
	Total	CTF	Others	Unfunded
(a) GEF Projects				
(i) Upscaling and Enhancing the Experience of the Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management in the Wider Caribbean. (CReW+) (3yrs)	1,000,000 (est)	0	0	1,000,000
(ii) Implementing Integrated Land, Water & Wastewater Management in Caribbean SIDS (IWeco) (5yrs)	11,641,626	0	11,641,626	0
TOTAL GEF	12,641,626	0	11,641,626	1,000,000
(b) OTHER Projects				
(iii) State of the Convention Area	75,000	0	75,000	0
(iv) Support to Caribbean Node for Marine Litter	120,010	0	0	120,010
(v) Trash Free Waters	60,000	0	60,000	0
(vi) Reduce Nutrient Pollution from the Caribbean Sea	235,000	0	235,000	0
(vii) Support to Caribbean Platform for Nutrients (CLME+)	600,000	0	600,000	0
Programme Coordination*	850,000	850,000	0	0
OTHER Sub-total	1,940,010	850,000	970,000	120,010
<i>Programme Support cost 13% to UNEP HQ (amount subject to change based on source of funding)**</i>	<i>252,201.30</i>	<i>110,500</i>	<i>126,100</i>	<i>15,601.30</i>
TOTAL OTHER	2,192,211.30	960,500	1,096,100	135,611.30
TOTAL AMEP	14,833,837.30	960,500	12,737,726	1,135,611.30
*Programme Coordination Includes staffing, travel, reporting, communication, and other support costs from the Caribbean Trust Fund. **13% Support Costs are not applied to GEF Funding.				

Budget of the SPAW Sub-Programme for the 2017-2018 Biennium

Activity	2017				2018			
	Budgeted			Required Balance	Budgeted			Required Balance
	CTF	Other Contributions*	Total cost		CTF	Other Contributions*	Total Cost	
2.1 Programme Co-ordination (salary costs and COP and STAC Meetings)	220,000	15,000	235,000	-	230,000	15,000	245,000	-
2.2 Strengthening of protected areas in the Wider Caribbean Region	0	410,107	410,107	-	0	118,600	118,600	-
2.3 Development of guidelines for management of protected areas and species	0	-**	0	-	0	-**	0	-
2.4 Conservation of threatened and endangered species	0	118,668	118,668	-	0	85,068	85,068	-
2.5 Conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine ecosystems	0	844,001	844,001	-	0	398,268	398,268	-
Subtotal	220,000	1,387,776	1,607,776	-	230,000	616,936	846,936	-
Programme support costs 13% (amount subject to change based on source of funds)	28,600	180,411	209,011	-	29,900	80,202	110,102	-
TOTAL SPAW	248,600	1,568,187	1,816,787	-	259,900	697,138	957,038	-

* Includes funding from France through SPAW-RAC, funding from the CLME+ Project and the Biodiversity for Sustainable Development in the Caribbean project; and in-kind contributions from SBNMS, the Center for Coastal Studies and Whale and Dolphin Conservation, and \$25,000 for the Cari'Mam project and €4,000 to Allied Whale

**In-kind support being explored from partners