



# Caribbean Challenge

An Update to the  
ICRI General Meeting

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# Caribbean Challenge Summary

- Largest biodiversity conservation initiative in the history of the Caribbean
- Focus on protecting, effectively managing, and sustainably using the region's coastal and marine resources
- Strong sustainable finance component
- Opportunity to demonstrate ecosystem based climate change adaptation strategies



# Caribbean Challenge Launched May 2008, Bonn, Germany at CBD COP-9

The Bahamas, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Grenada, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines pledge to protect at least 20 percent of their marine and coastal habitats by 2020.







# Caribbean Challenge Goal

Protect biodiversity and preserve human livelihoods across the Caribbean by effectively conserving and managing at least 20% of each country's coastal and marine habitat by 2020 through sustainably managed protected area systems that are resilient to climate change and degradation impacts.

(Implements agreed actions in CBD Program of Work on Protected Areas)



# Caribbean Challenge Objectives


- Effectively conserve at least 20% of the region's coastal and marine habitat by 2020 (3.2 million hectares) – protect fisheries and tourism-related livelihoods for more than 15 million people
- Provide dedicated, permanent funding for Caribbean protected area systems through the establishment of Protected Areas Trust Funds and the creation of new sustainable finance mechanisms at the national level.
- Protect Caribbean biodiversity in the face of climate change through ecosystem-based adaptation



# CARIBBEAN CHALLENGE



EEZ of Caribbean Challenge Participant ■  
EEZ of Pending Caribbean Challenge Participant ■  
Coral reef ■

  
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CARIBBEAN GIS (J. E. KNOWLES)  
MAP PROJECTION: LAMBERT AZIMUTHAL EQUAL AREA  
GEOGRAPHIC REFERENCE SYSTEM: WGS 1984





## Recent Progress

- Eight countries now participating: Bahamas, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Grenada, St Vincent & the Grenadines, Antigua & Barbuda, St Lucia, St Kitts & Nevis
- Funding pledged/under consideration for US\$40m to Caribbean Biodiversity Fund and US\$35m for on the ground implementation
- Three GEF projects designed (Bahamas, Dominican Republic, Jamaica) and one in preparation (Eastern Caribbean)
- July 2009: CARICOM endorses Challenge
- October 2009: Dominican Republic and Bahamas announced creation of new protected areas
- February 2010 workshop on design of Caribbean Biodiversity Fund—aiming for official announcement at CBD COP-10



## Public/Private Funding Pledged or Under Discussion

	Endowment	On the Ground	Total
Bahamas	\$2m		\$2m
DR	\$4.75m		\$4.75m
GEF	\$9m	\$11m	\$20m
Germany (KfW)	\$15m		\$15m
USA (USAID)		\$11m	\$11m
Italy		\$1m	\$1m
TNC	\$8m	\$12m	\$20m
TBD	\$1.25m		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$40m</b>	<b>\$35m</b>	<b>\$75m</b>

**Leverage potential after trust funds capitalized and other mechanisms put in place: \$10+ million per year**





# Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF)

- Proposed regional endowment, housed at the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), that would manage funding for individual countries
- Key elements:
  - Creation of national level PA Trusts to receive investment income proceeds
  - Incentive fund, linked to the creation of new national level conservation finance mechanisms that generate funding to supplement endowment income



# Implementation Status Update

	PA Master Plan	PA Trust Legislation	MPA Expansion	New Sust. Fin. Mech.	GEF FSP Design
Antigua & Barbuda	Underway	Underway	GEF FSP	GEF FSP	Underway
Bahamas	Complete	Complete	Underway	Underway	Complete
Dominican Republic	Underway	GEF FSP	Underway	GEF FSP	Complete
Grenada	Complete	Underway	Underway	GEF FSP	Underway
Jamaica	Complete	GEF FSP	GEF FSP	GEF FSP	Complete
St. Kitts & Nevis	Underway	Underway	Underway	GEF FSP	Underway
St. Lucia	Underway	Underway	GEF FSP	GEF FSP	Underway
St. Vincent	Complete	Underway	GEF FSP	GEF FSP	Underway



## Next Steps:

- Finalize structure and implement protected area finance mechanisms  
(Caribbean Biodiversity Fund and national funds)
- Determine mechanism for overseas territories (US, British, French and Dutch) to participate





Thank you!