



Member's report on activities related to ICRI

Reporting period October 2013 – September 2014

1. Updates on your activities.

Project 1

Cornerstone(s) implemented through the project	Check all that apply: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integrated Management <input type="checkbox"/> Capacity Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Science & Monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> Periodic Assessment (Review)
Project Title	Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction: Increasing resilience of coastal ecosystems to climate change
Location	Negril Marine Park & Montego Bay Marine Park
Dates	2011 - 2013
Main Organizer(s)	National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA) with funding from the European Union (EU) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Main Stakeholder(s)	Negril community, Montego Bay community & Government of Jamaica
Description of Project (Please elaborate on how the project implements the FFA cornerstones)	<p><u>Preparation of Management Plans</u></p> <p>Climate change has been recognized as one of the main emerging threats to the integrity of ecosystems and biodiversity. There is also growing recognition that protected areas will be an important tool that can be used by countries for climate change adaptation. NEPA was part of a nationally coordinated approach which applied to the EU for funding to implement several ecosystem-based approaches which addressed climate change. One activity of the ecosystem-based approach was the preparation of Management Plans for marine protected areas.</p> <p>The aim of the plans is to guide the effective management of resources, ecosystems and users within the boundaries of the Marine Parks. It contains management objectives and strategies and constitutes a framework within which subsequent management, implementation and planning can take place.</p> <p>The project is geared towards integrated management as well as science and management. This is noted in the goals being promoted which include resource management, habitat restoration as well as research and management. Performance monitoring and evaluation are also promoted as ways to gauge the effectiveness and impact of management initiatives.</p>
Outcome (Expected outcome)	Review and update the 5 year management plan for the Negril Marine Park & the drafting of a 5 year management plan for the Montego Bay Marine Park
Lessons learned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder consultation is important • Ample time should be designated to collect baseline data
Related websites (English preferred)	

Project 2

Cornerstone(s) implemented through the project	Check all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Management <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity Building <input type="checkbox"/> Science & Monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> Periodic Assessment (Review)
Project Title	Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction: Increasing resilience of coastal ecosystems project to climate change
Location	Vulnerable coastal communities
Dates	2011 - 2013
Main Organizer(s)	National Environment and Planning Agency with funding from the European Union and the United Nations Environment Programme
Main Stakeholder(s)	Coastal communities
Description of Project (Please elaborate on how the project implements the FFA cornerstones)	<p>Alternative Livelihoods Programme In an effort to make a living in difficult times, humans at times engage in activities which have deleterious effects on the environment in particular on coastal resources. This aspect of the project sought to provide alternatives mainly to displaced community personnel who would have otherwise earned a living from un-sustained and detrimental practices. The persons targeted under the project were fishermen (pot, net and spear), net-makers and charcoal burners who sourced the wood from mangrove forests.</p> <p>Non-governmental organizations and established community groups were encouraged to submit project proposals which focused on improving livelihoods, improving environmental awareness and reducing human pressure on coastal ecosystems and resources.</p>
Outcome (including expected outcome)	Implementation of viable alternative livelihood projects which become self-sustaining at the end of the funding cycle.
Lessons learned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant projects should be monitored after the grant cycle for the minimum of a year. This would give projects a greater chance of success as they would have a guide helping them with the nuances of starting a new enterprise. There was a need for the implementers to encourage a greater sense of ownership for the projects. However, though community projects sought to use community members to implement activities and increase their sense of ownership it was found that activities were completed more professionally and timely when private contractors were used to conduct the work.
Related websites (English preferred)	www.nepa.gov.jm/new/media_centre/gallery/video_gallery/when_livelihoods_adapt/index.php

Project 3

Cornerstone(s) implemented through the project	Check all that apply: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integrated Management <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Science & Monitoring <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Periodic Assessment (Review)
Project Title	Strengthening the operational and financial sustainability of the National Protected Area System
Location	Protected Areas island-wide

Dates	2010 - 2016
Main Organizer(s)	Planning Institute of Jamaica and the National Environment and Planning Agency
Main Stakeholder(s)	Government of Jamaica
Description of Project (Please elaborate on how the project implements the FFA cornerstones)	The goal of the project is to safeguard Jamaica's globally significant biodiversity. Efforts will be geared towards activities which enhance the national protected area system thus making it better equipped to conserve globally significant ecosystems and associated species which are currently vulnerable to environmental changes.
Outcome (Expected outcome)	<p>It is expected that activities will help to secure the long-term financial sustainability of Jamaica's protected area system by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harmonizing management practices to secure cost-effective conservation • Building capacity for strategic conservation and financial planning • Establishing additional income sources for protected area management <p>It is also expected that two new protected areas will be designated which will serve as replicable models for improved practices. The areas to be proposed are the Black River Protected Area which has a marine component and the Pedro Banks Protected Area. The proposed Pedro Banks Protected Area will also boast a marine spatial plan; data is currently being collected to inform this process.</p>
Lessons learned	
Related websites (English preferred)	www.nepa.gov.jm/projects/documents/national-protected-area-system/project-document.pdf

Project 4

Cornerstone(s) implemented through the project	Check all that apply: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integrated Management <input type="checkbox"/> Capacity Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Science & Monitoring <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Periodic Assessment (Review)
Project Title	Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction: Increasing resilience of coastal ecosystems project to climate change
Location	Portland Bight Protected Area, Negril Marine Park
Dates	2011-2013
Main Organizer(s)	National Environment and Planning Agency with funding from the European Union and the United Nations Environment Programme
Main Stakeholder(s)	Portland Cottage community, Old Harbour Bay community, Negril community, Government of Jamaica
Description of Project (Please elaborate on how the project implements the FFA cornerstones)	<p><u>Mangrove replanting</u> Increase in the number of hectares along the coastline covered by mangroves in Portland Bight. An ecological restoration method was used which focused on restoring the hydrological regime to encourage natural recruitment. The natural recruitment process was also supplemented by planting seedlings.</p> <p><u>Installation of Artificial Reefs and the rehabilitation of sand dunes</u></p>

	<p>This component sought to establish and enhanced coastal protection measures by installing artificial reef structures in MPAs displaying vulnerability to rising sea levels. The Negril Marine Park (Negril coastline) and the Portland Bight Protected Area (Old Harbour Bay) were the sites for this intervention.</p> <p>A new proprietary methodology/technology to combat coastal erosion by rehabilitating sand dunes was piloted on beaches located in Negril and Font Hill.</p>
Outcome (Expected outcome)	<p>NEPA’s component of the project piloted several methodologies which have been documented in the form of manuals and guideline documents based on the methodologies implemented under the project. The methodologies may be scaled up, down and or modified further for implementation in similar locations locally, regionally or internationally.</p> <p>Increased public awareness of the impacts of climate change and dissemination of information on the methodologies employed under the project. Through duty travel project representatives have been able to showcase some of the methodologies employed under the project. This was done in Germany and Guyana. The documents prepared and presentations made have been published in the conference proceedings.</p> <p>All project components implemented also consisted of monitoring protocols (baseline, interim and post-implementation) to track the effectiveness of the activity implemented.</p>
Lessons learned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set realistic timelines for project start up and administration versus project implementation. In this scenario much of the “implementation” time was utilized for project start up, specifically organization agreements and MOUs. This gave the impression that there was a delayed in implementation. • Community engagement/public awareness cannot be understated. Implementation delays due to public will be offset by better community awareness and communication strategies. • Bear in mind that some communities will require exhaustive consultations at multiple levels to ensure maximum engagement and support. • When desirous of piloting new technologies, it is important to ensure that enough time and resources are allocated to the sensitization and approval processes as these can often be lengthy and costly.
Related websites (English preferred)	

2. Contribution to the ICRI Plan of Action and GM.

a. Engaging other sectors

Under the “Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction: Increasing resilience of coastal ecosystems Project” an Alternative Livelihood Grant Programme was created. The grant programme sought to introduce livelihood activities which would help residents use the environment in a more responsible manner and not merely as a means to earn an income and as such compromise it.

Eight grants which funded 14 activities were disbursed. The activities targeted 700 beneficiaries island-wide on projects located in and close to vulnerable coastal communities in an effort to reduce the impacts of human activities on mangrove forests and coral reefs. The activities included the establishment of a sea-moss farm, palm nursery, community-based eco-tourism, organic farming, beekeeping and entrepreneurial enterprises.

b. Reef zoning for multiple use

Location where a zoning plan has been implemented	
Year when the zoning plan was implemented	
Is the zoning plan accepted by the local community?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Did the zoning plan cause conflicts among stakeholders?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Did the zoning plan resolve conflicts among stakeholders?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Has there been effective enforcement for stakeholders to follow the zoning plan?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Overall, how would you rate the success of the zoning plan?	<input type="checkbox"/> Very successful <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat successful <input type="checkbox"/> Not so successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful

Zoning Plans have been drafted for three marine parks and one protected area which has a marine component. Stakeholder consultations have already been conducted in Negril and Montego Bay to inform the zoning plans. The plan for the Negril Marine Park is at the most advanced stage and is awaiting ministerial approval prior to implementation. During the process to formulate the plan and obtaining buy-in and consensus from stakeholders the lessons learned were numerous and varied.

- Stakeholders need to know that their opinion is valued and will be taken into consideration. They also need to receive timely feedback and explanations on decisions made and are involved in all aspects of the plan.
- A local partner/NGO is needed to lead the process; this partner should already have an established rapport with the community.
- Meetings/consultations should be tailored to the specifications of the participants in attendance. Small focus group meetings help to garner input from more participants and not only the most vocal ones.
- When trying to implement change, consider the livelihoods of the persons to be affected. Ensure that they understand that the aim is to harmonize the process of resource management and conservation.
- Ensure that funds are available for alternative livelihoods and have options available for the community to consider.

3. Publications.

Title (incl. author and date)	Website URL if available	Type of publication (Paper, report, etc.)
Coral Reefs of Jamaica, An Evaluation of Ecosystem Health:2013. Author: Loureene Jones, NEPA Date: Mar 2014	http://www.nepa.gov.jm/new/media_centre/publications/2013_Coral_Reef_Report_card.pdf	Report
National Report on the implementation of the RAMSAR Convention on Wetlands. Author: NEPA (administrative authority) Date: July 2014		Report (submitted to RAMSAR Convention for COP12)
Draft Palisadoes Port Royal Protected Area Zoning Plan 2014-2019. Author: NEPA Date: Feb 2014	http://www.nepa.gov.jm/prpazp/draft-zoning-plan.pdf	Management Plan

4. General Information.

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