



35th ICRI General Meeting
February 2021

SPAW-RAC : coral reefs/ marine ecosystems activities

A stylized illustration of a sea turtle swimming underwater. The turtle is light blue with dark spots on its shell and flippers. It is surrounded by various marine life, including several small dark blue fish and patches of coral. The background is a gradient of blue, representing the ocean.

Sandrine Pivard, Director,
Regional Activity Center for the SPAW Protocol (SPAW-RAC)



Cartagena Convention

Only Legally Binding, Regional Agreement for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region

The Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP) was formally established by the Governments of the Wider Caribbean

and most successful of the UNEP administered Regional Seas Programmes.



The Contracting Parties shall take all appropriate measures to prevent, reduce and control:



Article 10

**Specially
protected
areas and
wildlife**



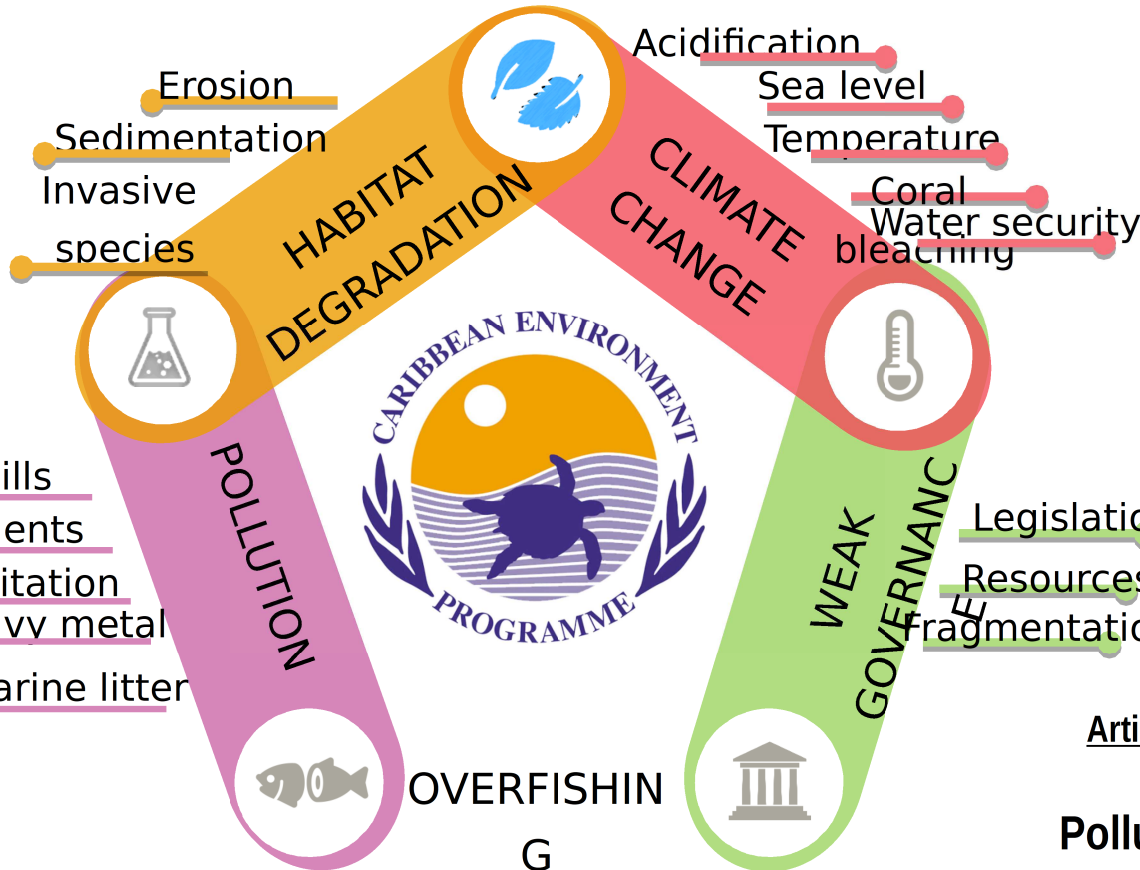
Article 9

Air pollution



Article 8

**Pollution from
sea bed
activities**



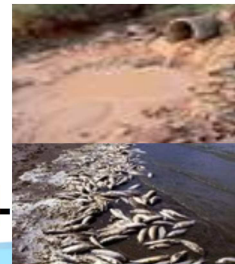
Article 5

**Pollutions
from ship**



Article 6

**Pollution from
dumping**



Article 7

**Pollution from land-
based
sources**



The Cartagena Convention as a regional agreement addresses several different coastal & marine environmental threats affecting the countries of the Wider Caribbean Region. *Adopted in 1983, Entered into force 1986*

28 Parties

Pollution from Oil Spills



Adopted in 1983
Entered into force in 1986
25 Parties



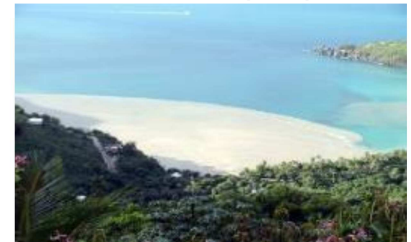
Specially Protected Areas & Wildlife (SPAW)



Adopted in 1990
Entered into force in 2000
17 Parties



Land Based Sources and Activities of Marine Pollution (LBS)



Adopted in 1999
Entered into force in 2010
13 Parties



The three Protocols to the Convention identify additional obligations for the protection and development of the Caribbean Sea and are supported by REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRES (RAC)

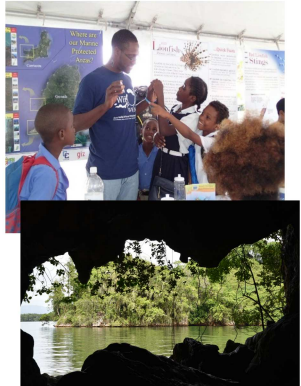
SPAW parties and sites





Establishment and strengthening of MPAs

Ecosystem based management, spatial marine planning, networking



Development of guidelines for the management of MPAS and species

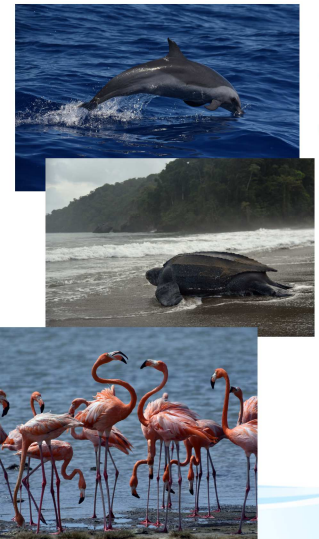
Assessment and completion of the existing listings, develop cooperation between SPAW sites



REGIONAL COOPERATION

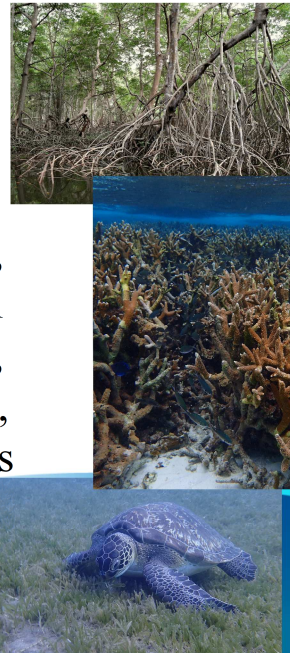
Preservation of threatened and endangered species

Marine mammals, (CARI'MAM), turtles (WIDECAS), sharks, birds



Preservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine ecosystems

Coral reefs (GCRMN, CRC SC, ICRI), mangroves, seagrass, coastal resilience, invasive species control, sargassum, sustainable development, BEST (EU) projects





GCRMN-Global :

- **Coordinate the data collection and analysis of the Caribbean content of the Global report** => share the unanimous observation: a diminution of corals and an increase of algae is observed. Exposed the following threats : Lionfish invasion, sargassum, upcoming of the SCTLD ...

- **Highlighted** => the need to take into account socioeconomic features in the next Global Report.

GCRMN- Caribbean :

- **Integrated monitoring** => guidelines to better understand biophysics aspects of coral reefs in the Caribbean and provided keys for an efficient monitoring that takes into account socioeconomic features

- **Improved data collection**, analysis and reporting/ link with AGGRA

- **Daily management** (ToRs, communication , ...).

- **Develop advocacy/ Ensuring liaise** with ICRI, UNEP Coral Reef Unit, CPC, NOAA (Post Hurricane effort; SCTLD, etc)

- **Looking for funding opportunities**

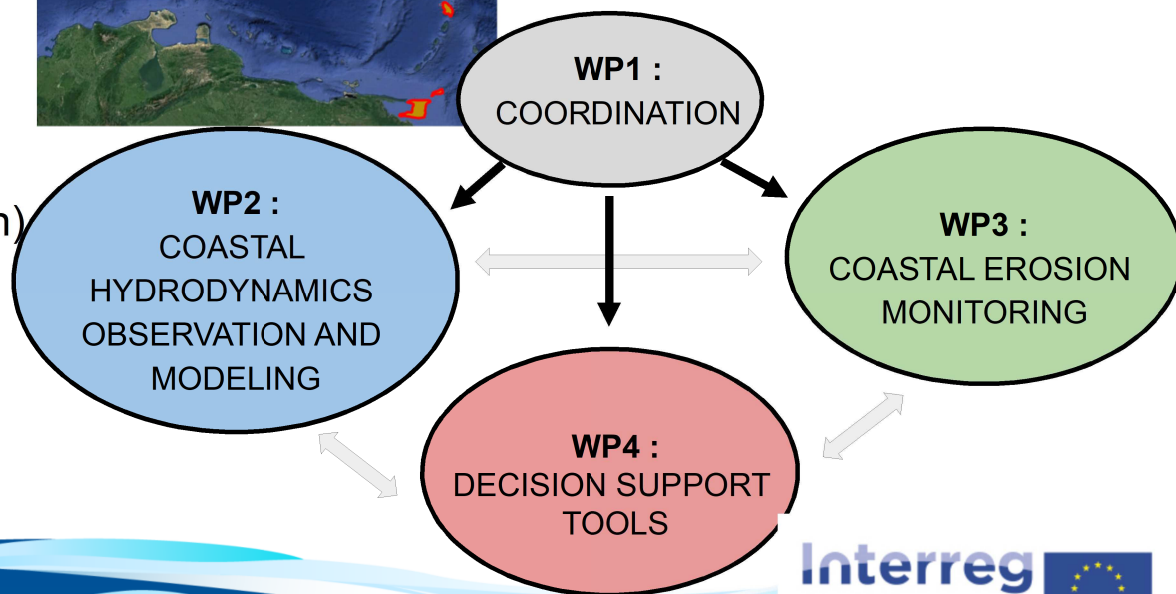
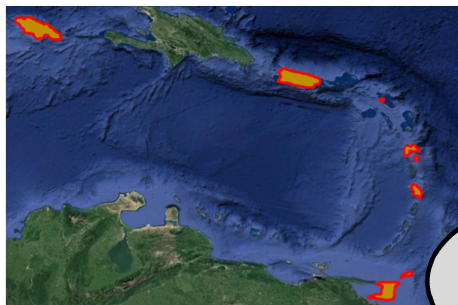




CARIB-COAST

Caribbean coastal risks prevention
and monitoring network related with climate change

- Led by the french Geological and mining research bureau
- 6 Caribbean territories
- 11 Caribbean partners
- 3 years long (+1 year extension)
- Interreg Caribbean funds
- 3 021 890, 59 €





Target: Marine and coastal ecosystems

- Coral Reefs, Seagrass beds, Mangroves,
Upper beach vegetation -

- **Syntheses** on each ecosystem (status, trends, protection and/or restoration activities in the Caribbean)
- **Implementation of pilot sites**, to protect/restore each ecosystem in a specific area in the Caribbean
- Creation of **posters and awareness videos** about these ecosystems capacities regarding coastal protection

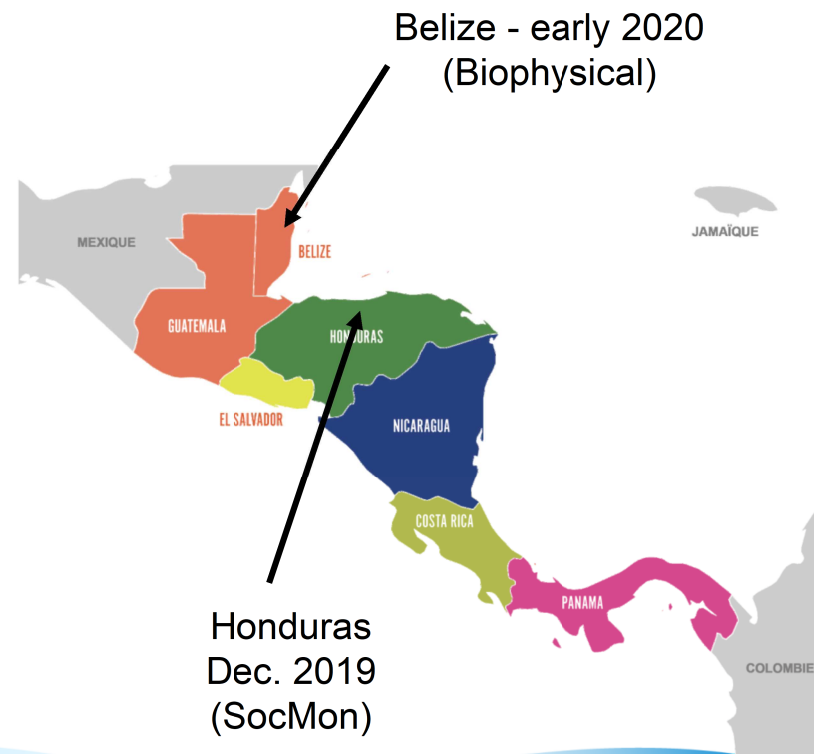




● GCRMN biophysical and SocMon Training Sessions in the Wider Caribbean Region

Mesoamerica

- 2019 to 2020
- **2 training workshops**
- **5 days of training each**
- 2 trainers per topic
- Data collection during the WS to help local monitoring
- Due to the impossibility of organizing in-person meetings in due time, the award was rescinded, and the continuation of such as actions is for the moment postponed



Parrot fish evaluation and recommendations



ICRI General Meetings urged Caribbean nations to protect parrotfish to improve coral reef resilience, SPAW STAC8 (2018) recommended to address them as priority

A STAC species working group dedicated to the task.

Discussions underway to recommend 16 species of parrotfish in Annex III of the SPAW Protocol (sustainable management and possibly 3 of them (*Scarus coeruleus*, *S. guacamaia* and *S. coelestinus*) in Annex II

The proposal goes with a large set of management recommendations among which :

- Protection of parrotfish nursery habitats;
- Maintenance of water quality;
- Improved harvesting measures
- stop investing public money in activities that fund overfishing, produce illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, and degrade the ocean.

ICRI

Initiative Internationale pour les Récifs Coralliens
International Coral Reef Initiative

www.icriforum.org

Recommendation on addressing the decline of herbivorous fish populations for improved coral community health throughout the Tropical Eastern Pacific, the Eastern and Western Atlantic, and the Greater Caribbean Region

adopted on December 2019, at the 34th ICRI General Meeting (Australia)

Recent studies have shown that coral-algal phase shifts, in which coral cover declines to low levels and is replaced by algae, challenge the management and survival of coral



DRAFT

NB: Please use the "Suggestion Mode"

Species Working Group (SWG)

Task n° 2.2

Proposal for the inclusion of all parrotfishes (Perciformes: Scaridae) in Annex III of the Protocol on Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife in the Wider Caribbean Region of the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment in the Wider Caribbean Region (SPAW Protocol)

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SPAW PROTOCOL
(Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife)



Framework to regulate the protection of herbivorous fish and coral reefs of the Greater Caribbean



Priorities and strategies for regional collaboration

- Nassau Grouper in annex III
- sea turtles in annex II
- sawfish in annex II
- sharks and rays in annex III

Inclusion of new species in the Spaw Protocol listing, to improve their protection:

- great hammerhead shark
- smooth hammerhead shark
- oceanic whitetip shark
- whale shark
- giant manta ray



SPAW-RAC Call for proposals



In order to support regional initiatives and stakeholders during this period, SPAW-RAC launched last year a call for proposals for small short-term grants (5,000 to 10,000 euros / 4 months to 1 year)

37 proposals have been received, most of them of high quality, and 15 have already been accepted in 2020

Call for proposals Short-term Small Grants - year 2020 -

Information note
for the SPAW Protocole
Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee

Name of the organization: Fragments of Hope

Name of the project: "Expanding Reef Replenishment Efforts with the Critically Endangered Caribbean Acroporid Corals to northern Belize"

Name of the organization: Kap Natirel

Name of the project: "Rékin-ADNe" Towards a standardized monitoring of chondrichthyan populations in the Caribbean by the eDNA method



Name of the organization: Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia

Name of the project:
Restauracion de formaciones coralinas en el
Parque Nacional Natural Old Providence McBean
Lagoon-Caribe colombiano.



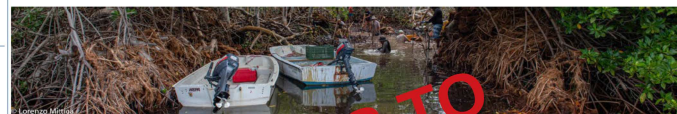
Total budget of the project: 24,000 Euros

SPAW-RAC grant: 8,500 Euros

Timeframe for implementation: 1 July - November 2021

Name of the organization: Mangrove Maniacs

Name of the project: Workshop Mangrove Restoration



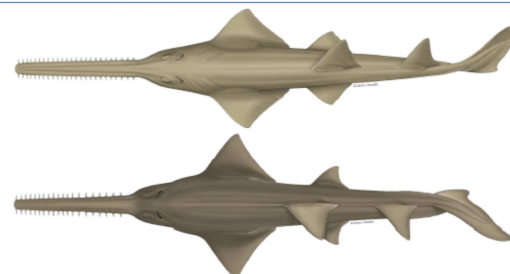
Total budget of the project: \$ 25,195

SPAW-RAC grant: € 9,000



Name of the organization: Des Requins et Des Hommes

Name of the project: TIDENT



LOOKING FOR FUNDERS TO
REPLICATE OR UPSCALE



35th ICRI General Meeting February 2021

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SPAW NEWSLETTER Protocol and Programme

N° 26
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