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Committee (STAC) to the Protocol Concerning  
Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the  
Wider Caribbean Region

Cartagena, Colombia, 8 December 2014

**UPDATE ON THE CARIBBEAN MARINE PROTECTED AREAS MANAGEMENT NETWORK  
AND FORUM (CaMPAM) AND ITS MAJOR ACTIVITIES**

*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.*

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## I. INTRODUCTION

1. During the 2012-2014 biennium, the Caribbean Marine Protected Areas Management (CaMPAM) Network and Forum developed and implemented several activities, funded primarily with resources from the project "**Regional Support for the Caribbean Challenge Initiative: Networking, Consolidation and Regional Coordination of MPA Management**", provided by the Directorate General for Development Cooperation of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the SPAW programme. In addition, in 2013 The Nature Conservancy invited UNEP-CEP/SPAW-RAC to coordinate a small grants programme to build MPA capacity in six (6) Eastern Caribbean islands, namely: Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Saint Kitts and Nevis. The project started in January 2014 and is funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) in support of the Climate Change Initiative on the basis of a decision adopted by the German Bundestag. The CaMPAM-ECMMAN Small Grants Programme is one of the components of the larger project "Climate-Resilient Eastern Caribbean Marine Managed Areas Network (ECMMAN)" led by The Nature Conservancy. Many of these activities were managed and administered by the SPAW-RAC, hosted by the Government of France.
2. Listed below is a summary of CaMPAM activities implemented in the period October 2012 to November 2014:

## II. TRAINING ACTIVITIES ON MPA MANAGEMENT

### a) National initiatives

3. October 2012 to November 2014, UNEP-CEP partnered in MPA capacity building activities with several national and international institutions such as INVEMAR, TNC, IUCN programmes such as BIOPAMA and EU Overseas territories in the Caribbean, the GCFI, as well as the WCPA Marine, Government of France, WWF and the CLME which are described hereafter. This cooperation allowed SPAW to expand MPA capacity building activities by attracting financial resources, building synergies with similar national and regional initiatives, align them with CaMPAM training tools and platforms, and assist countries and regional bodies with their commitments under the SPAW Protocol and other related biodiversity conservation initiatives, including the Caribbean Challenge Initiative (CCI) and the CBD Aichi Targets.
  - **Colombian national course on marine protected area planning, management, and sustainable financing** - This national training course was coordinated by INVEMAR with the support of CaMPAM for course design and facilitation. The course was held in Cartagena, on 8-11 May 2013, and is part of the capacity building activities of the UNDP-GEF project "Designing and Implementing a National Sub-System of Marine Protected Areas (SMPA) in Colombia", and is aimed at increasing the institutional and individual capacities of MPA management in Colombia. It was attended by twenty-one (21) participants from institutions with jurisdiction over the coastal and marine managed areas, including the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS), the Center for Oceanographic Research and Hydrographic - CIOH Cartagena (which was the venue and provided support), the National Authority for Fisheries and Aquaculture (AUNAP), National Parks Service (PNN), several autonomous regional corporations, the Natural Heritage and INVEMAR. The National Natural Park Corales del Rosario and San Bernardo served as the MPA biophysical and governance scenario for the course.
  - **Learning Exchange for Junior MPA Officers in Belize** - For the first time the IUCN Regional Office for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean (ORMACC)<sup>1</sup>, in cooperation with UNEP-CEP/SPAW-CaMPAM, and as part of its BIOPAMA programme, organized an "Exchange of Caribbean Junior MPA Officers" to assist in their professional development. This exchange activity was funded by the IUCN-



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ORMACC BIOPAMA, with support from CaMPAM with the design and facilitation. Using the experience of CaMPAM Exchange Programme of over fifteen (15) years, seven (7) junior professionals from Barbados, Belize, Dominican Republic, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, and St. Lucia spent a week in mid-February in Belize to learn from the Belizean MPA managers, and governmental and non-governmental organizations related to marine resources conservation and management. After one (1) day of lectures via the Coastal Zone Management Authority by the Fisheries Department, the World Conservation Society, the Audubon Society, the Environmental Defense Fund Managed Access Initiative and others, the participants led by the IUCN-BIOPAMA Protected Areas Officer, CaMPAM and the Belizean National MPA coordinators, had a five (5) day visit to several protected areas in Belize, namely Corozal Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, and the marine reserves of Hol Chan and Bacalar Chico.

4. The selection of Belizean MPAs, and national and local organizations as a “*learning center*” allowed the participants to learn and be exposed to the following: 1) consolidated MPAs with solid management plans including marine reserves and other categories; 2) a strong participation of local communities in environmental management; 3) their collaborative vocation; 4) national organizations with a strong record of marine resources management and conservation; 5) the current Belize initiative of developing areas with managed access that involve fishers and other stakeholders; and 6) the existence of community-managed nature tourism operations in association with the conservation areas.

b) CaMPAM Mentorship Programme

5. Senior marine resource professionals (mentors) from around the Caribbean joined a UNEP-CEP/SPAW programme through CaMPAM from December 2013 to September 2014 to facilitate a “pilot launch” of the CaMPAM Mentorship Programme. The programme was funded through the project "Regional support for the Caribbean Challenge initiative: Networking, consolidation and regional coordination of MPA management", funded by the Directorate General for Development Cooperation of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
6. Mentoring has long been recognized as an effective means to build individual and institutional capacity. The primary goal of the CaMPAM Mentorship Programme is to sustainably enhance MPA practitioner’s competencies through development of mentoring relationships that respond to common and emerging training, capacity building and technical assistance needs. Extensive regional collaboration helped establish the programmatic framework that guided the launch.
7. In early 2013 the project team and select mentors gathered in the Dominican Republic to mutually develop and agree on a charter that describes: 1) the programme goal and objectives; 2) a list of current mentors; and 3) an outline of roles and responsibilities of mentors, mentees and the CaMPAM project team. Several regional conservation leaders offered additional input to the framework during a strategic planning session at the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute. The programme was launched in late 2013 by broadly disseminating a “request for expressions of interest” from Caribbean MPA managers or practitioners interested to work with a mentor. The request noted that with support from the CaMPAM Small Grants Programme, successfully matched mentor/mentee pairs would receive financing for geographic exchanges or other activities that enhance mentee knowledge, skills and on-the-job competencies.
8. Three (3) mentor/mentee pairs were matched during the launch. Each pair jointly developed mentoring agreements and subsequently began working together to enhance mentee professional development. Two (2) mentees (from Belize and Barbados) participated in an exchange to the Bonaire National Marine Park, and subsequently received follow up grants to conduct and facilitate local public consultation meetings and promote marine resource conservation. One (1) mentee from Cuba received the visit of his mentor from Dominican Republic and in turn visited several government and non-governmental institutions and sites in Dominican Republic in October to gain insight in the development of a research programme, ecotourism and lionfish control (see UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.36/INF.3).
9. Mentors with specialized knowledge and experience in marine resource management no doubt play a strategic role in enhancing professional competence, and thus help to strengthen capacity for effective management across the

region's MPA network. Pending available funding, CaMPAM hopes to expand the early programme success well into the future.

c) Small Grant Programme for Learning Exchanges and MPA Assistance

10. As customary, grants (US\$7000 – US\$10,000) are awarded under CaMPAM in cooperation with the SPAW- RAC to strengthen MPA effectiveness and promote responsible and sustainable marine resources management practices, including economic alternatives for fishers and effective marine managed areas. The process includes: 1) the identification and procurement of funding (from different sources); 2) a Call for Proposals from MPA's; 3) the review of proposals by the CaMPAM team against approved criteria; 4) the issuing of grants and the disbursement of funds; 5) the supervision of project implementation; and 6) the dissemination of results via CaMPAM List and other mechanisms including posting on the [CaMPAM website](#). This process is also coordinated with relevant partners such as [GCFI](#) and [OECS](#). The process ensures rigor and transparency of the selection and a high quality of proposals with the possibility of building synergy among different projects, while promoting common activities and outcomes. The grants during this biennium were awarded to government agencies as well as to non-governmental organizations partnering with them. In 2014, the Small Grants Programme was primarily supported through the [ECMMAN project](#) administered by The Nature Conservancy and funded by the German Government. The ECMMAN project focuses on six (6) OECS countries.
11. The [CaMPAM-ECMMAN Small Grants Programme](#) is implemented through the SPAW-RAC, and for 2014 to 2016 will award approximately US\$225,000 in grants to provide technical assistance to each of the six (6) countries to improve capacities for creating new Marine Managed Areas (MMA's), better manage the existing ones, and help countries meet national and international commitments. The Call for Proposal launched by SPAW-RAC on 1 March 2014 (see [Release #12 of the SPAW Newsletter](#)) resulted in six (6) awards to the St. Lucia National Trust, the Grenada Fund for Conservation, the Nevis Historical and Conservation Society, the Antigua Environmental Awareness Group, the Sustainable Grenadines Inc. and the Dominican Tantan Development Group in collaboration with the government agencies (Fisheries and Marine Resources Departments). The proposals (Table 1), thoroughly reviewed by a team of experts from OECS, TNC, UNEP-CEP, SPAW-RAC and CaMPAM, follow on the outcomes of the OECS's OPAAL projects aimed at implementing the MPA management plans that were developed during this programme. A second call for proposals will be launched the first quarter of 2015.

d) Cooperation programme for SPAW-listed sites

12. Five (5) projects were selected in November 2013 among the proposals submitted by listed sites of SPAW Parties and as part of the cooperation programme for SPAW-listed Protected Areas launched by the Secretariat (see UNEP(DEPI)/CARWG.36/INF.3 and UNEP(DEPI)/CARWG.36/INF.4). These projects included activities such as exchanges, trainings, mentorships, etc. to increase capacity on protected area management and promoting the listing of additional MPAs:
  - i. **Invasive alien species management strategies: learning and sharing best practices between MPA's of north eastern Caribbean islands of Saba, Statia, St. Barth and Anguilla (UK).** (Grant awarded to St. Martin Nature Reserve for US\$12,000) –
13. In order to learn from each other and share best practices, a workshop was implemented to strengthen management practices on the ground, and to benefit from the most relevant and cost effective tools and actions related to alien species eradication (rodents, iguanas, plant species and invasive sea grass). The participants defined scientific watch on alien invasive species, alien invasive species monitoring plans, eradication plans and long term impact assessments on threatened endemic species. Participants included staff from PA's of EU overseas territories in the Caribbean which included Saba National Park, St Eustatius National Parks, Petite-Terre National Reserve (Guadeloupe), Anguilla Protected Areas, Sint-Maarten Marine Park Foundation, Réserve Naturelle Nationale de Saint-Martin, and partners such as the government of Anguilla, the Office National de la Chasse et de la Faune Sauvage (ONCFS) and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB).

ii. **Sharing experiences among the National Park of Guanahacabibes and other Cuban MPA officers with protected areas from México and Belize.** (US\$12,000) –



14. From 29 March to 6 April 2014, specialists from the National Center of Protected Areas and Guanahacabibes National Park (GNP) of Cuba participated in an exchange with staff of Mexico and Belize MPAs as part of the SPAW sites cooperation programme. The Cuban participants were from the National Center for Protected Areas in addition to the manager and two (2) scientific staff of GNP. The exchange included a meeting with scientists of El Colegio de la Frontera Sur, Chetumal Unit, where the specifics of the MPA research and monitoring programmes at both countries were discussed.

15. In the Hol Chan Marine Reserve in Belize, the participants learnt from the staff how they managed the area, in particular the conservation of marine species and ecosystems, and the surveillance and protection system they had in place. They visited the coral reef recreation area to observe their condition, the tourist visitation in the area of public use, and the general enforcement of regulations in the reserve. In Mexico, they visited the Arrecifes de Xcalak National Park and learned about its conservation status, restoration and management, and how they handled vessel stranding events with the support of the Navy (Secretaría de Marina), fisheries management agency (CONAPESCA), the environmental policy enforcement agency (Procuraduría Federal para el Ambiente), as well as the sea turtle monitoring programme. They also gained insight on enforcement of fishing regulations within protected areas. Tourist and fishing facilities operated and managed by local people were visited to learn how they managed visitation along with the application of functional zoning regulations and actions to control lionfish with the participation of local communities. In addition, a visit to the Sea Turtle Sanctuary Xcacel-Xcacelit, allowed participants to learn more about sea turtle conservation in the Riviera Maya-Tulum region with the participation of local volunteers and students.

16. The Cuban specialists found that the observation of practices and experiences of the visited areas can benefit the management of Guanahacabibes National Park through the implementation of similar management tools.

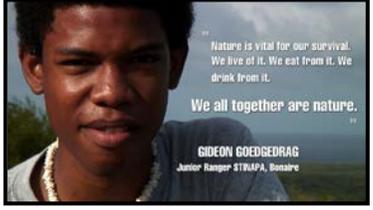
iii. **Strengthen capacity of artisanal fishermen by exploring environmentally friendly alternative livelihoods in Seaflower MPA, Colombia (with CORALINA and Blue Dream Ltd).** (US\$12,600) –

17. A group of artisanal fishers from San Andres and Providence Islands began their training on recreational fishing techniques with a field visit to three (3) sites in Panama (Caribbean and Pacific) from the 19-25 March 2014. The fishers learned from other fishers and business providers about setting up a sport fishing operation, and became familiarized with various types of equipment and accessories utilized in “catch and release” operations. Training continued with a theoretical and practical course developed in San Andres Island (21-23April 2014) and in Old Providence (24-25April 2014).



18. The course was offered by Dr. Edward Chesney from Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium, who covered basic concepts on recreational fishing, “catch and release” techniques, tools and skills needed to improve fish survival, and criteria needed for successful business of charters fishing trips. With this project, a total of twenty (20) fishermen were trained and several international partners are now engaged to continue supporting CORALINA in looking for successful alternative livelihoods within the Seaflower MPA. Since then, CORALINA has been able

to secure additional funds to continue training and supply tow boats with fishing accessories hoping that sport fishing will become a viable alternative for local fishers.

- iv. **Strengthening MPA enforcement capacity at Hol Chan, Glover’s Reef and Port Honduras Marine Reserves, Belize (Toledo Institute for Development (TIDE) in collaboration with the Belize Fisheries Department).** (US\$12,000) – The report is pending regarding the achievements of this project.
  - v. **Nature education exchange programme between Bonaire National Marine Park and Saba Marine Park to assist in the development of a Junior Ranger Programme in Saba.** (US\$12,000) –
19. STINAPA Bonaire and the Saba Conservation Foundation (Saba Bank National Park) received the grant. Bonaire and Saba both have a designated marine protected area, the Bonaire National Marine Park (BNMP) managed by STINAPA Bonaire, and the Saba Marine Park, managed by the Saba Conservation Foundation.
  20. Both marine protected areas are listed as SPAW sites. In 2009, STINAPA Bonaire started a Junior Rangers programme with three (3) local youths and today this programme has grown to forty five (45) dedicated Junior Rangers between the ages of fourteen (14) and twenty-one (21). Twice weekly the Junior Rangers receive nature lessons about the fragile planet earth systems as well as scuba dive training in the marine park (including reef fish ID and coral reef restoration techniques).
 
  21. The objectives of the nature education exchange with Saba were to support capacity increase of both Saba Conservation Foundation (SCF) and the Bonaire National Marine Park, by implementing an exchange programme where STINAPA’s leading Junior Rangers and Nature Education Officer could share their knowledge and skills with youth nature educational groups on Saba.
  22. Five (5) Junior Rangers accompanied by three (3) staff and volunteers from STINAPA Bonaire travelled to Saba for five (5) days. During this visit they joined Saba youth groups in exploring the different ecosystems on Saba. Through presentations, workshops, field excursions and biodiversity monitoring, the STINAPA Junior Rangers and Saba’s youth exchanged information and ideas about protective legislation, MPA management and nature conservation. Park staff, education professionals and the youth themselves shared materials and started developing the structure of a Saba Junior Ranger Programme. This exchange programme provided an invaluable experience for both Bonaire and Saba youths, and an excellent opportunity for STINAPA Junior Rangers to see different ecosystems compared to what they are accustomed to on Bonaire. It also illustrated that MPA educational programmes are instrumental in providing our future leaders with the tools they need to effectively conserve and manage our marine and terrestrial habitats. A documentary was produced on the exchange (<https://www.youtube.com/stinapa>), and through local television broadcast on both Saba and Bonaire, including various social media channels, this video will disseminate the importance of regional networking among (youth) groups.
  - vi. **Exchange between St. Eustatius National Parks Foundation and St. Kitts and Nevis marine resources stakeholders on lionfish management.** (US\$8,000) –
  23. On November 2012 the St Eustatius National Parks Foundation (STENAPA), hosted a successful lionfish management workshop on the neighboring island of Nevis to raise awareness, and teach management and handling of the invasive lionfish. Like other Caribbean Islands, St. Kitts and Nevis is now faced with the problem of the lionfish and was aware that St. Eustatius had implemented a successful lionfish action plan. Staff members of the Statia National Marine Park were trained in Bonaire by representatives of REEF from as early as 2009, which was a full year before the first lionfish was recorded on St. Eustatius.
  24. Two (2) staff members, Marine Park Manager Jessica Berkel and National Park Ranger Anna Maitz, went to Nevis as exchange lionfish consultants. The aim was to reach as many persons in the community as possible and this was roundly achieved. Presentations and demonstrations were given to a wide range of stakeholders including policy

makers, teachers and students, charter boat crews, fishermen and the general public among others. The staff of the marine park was also interviewed on a popular radio show to further facilitate public awareness.

e) Meetings and Fora

- GCFI Annual Conferences

25. As in previous years (since 2004), CaMPAM contributed to the 2012 (Santa Marta, Colombia), 2013 (Corpus Christi, Texas) and 2014 (Bridgetown, Barbados) GCFI Annual Meetings, in particular with the coordination, design and delivery of its “MPA Science and Management” session and concurrent workshops. This continuity is facilitated by the fact that CaMPAM Coordinator (since 1998) is an active member of the GCFI Board of Directors. The participation of CaMPAM at the GCFI includes not only the coordination of the session, but also other concurrent meetings (e.g. the Update Meeting of the 2012 UNEP-CEP Caribbean Challenge project focal points), and other SPAW-RAC workshops along with sponsorship of participants. Each year, the process includes the following: 1) announcement of the MPA session and of UNEP-CEP/SPAW travel support, 2) review of abstracts and selection of papers to be presented orally and in the poster modality; 3) travel support for selected abstracts and participants; and 4) facilitation and chairing of the session itself.
26. The GCFI conference attracts hundreds of marine scientists and resources managers from government, academic and nongovernmental institutions, and is an excellent opportunity to learn the latest on the Wider Caribbean marine resources, research and management issues, while networking with colleagues from the region and beyond. The conference “Small islands, big issues: applying fisheries and marine science to solve problems and create opportunities” was held in November 2014 in Barbados (67<sup>th</sup> GCFI Annual Meeting) and CaMPAM coordinated the session “Marine Protected Area Science and Management”. Fifteen (15) papers were selected out of twenty-two (22) submitted. The subject of the papers ranged from coral reef assessments and biological connectivity research data and its application, to MPA management and community involvement in this management. Five (5) news briefs on the meeting were posted in CaMPAM List.
27. The UNEP-CEP SPAW programme, as part of CaMPAM’s support to building management capacity, provided travel support to nine (9) participants: five (5) presenters to the MPA session (MPA practitioners from Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, St. Martin and Guatemala), as well as four (4) fishers from Grenada, St. Lucia and the Bahamas. The fishermen, all linked to marine managed areas, also attended the Fishers Forum “Fisheries livelihoods: living for the work and other activities” especially designed for them. Furthermore, the CaMPAM Coordinator gave a presentation at the workshop: “MPAs as a potential management tool for responsible fisheries in the Caribbean: Lessons learnt and ways forward for sustainable livelihoods and healthy oceans” organized by the FAO.
28. Additionally, at the 66<sup>th</sup> GCFI Annual Conference (Corpus Christi, Texas, 4-8 November 2013) managers of the eighteen (18) marine protected areas listed under the SPAW Protocol, gathered for the first time to define the vision, goals, benefits and activities of their cooperation programme. Information on this activity is detailed in UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.36/INF.3.

f) Compiling and disseminating data on Caribbean marine protected areas and management tools

- CaMPAM Regional MPA Database

29. The population of the regional MPA database (hosted by GCFI and coordinated by CaMPAM) has been slow and difficult. In the last two (2) years, the Bahamas (through the Bahamas National Trust) and Dominican Republic (through Reef Check Dominican Republic) have completed their MPA database with the data available. Many others are still lacking in data. The poor response of managers to the request to provide data can be explained by the general lack of data and the apparent insufficient incentive to provide them. Other MPA databases have the same problem and have even less MPA Caribbean data.
30. In order to assist countries with MPA data sharing, the CaMPAM-ECMMAN Small Grants Programme has ensured that all projects include the creation or improvement of their individual MPA websites. These resources may contribute to the generation and online publication of data of the Caribbean MPAs. In any case, the maintenance of CaMPAM Regional MPA Database requires a permanent technical staff that can work on the data acquisition and its quality control, as well as provide technical support for database maintenance. The GCFI is committed to

providing technical support as resources become available, but the assistance of the SPAW parties' focal points in facilitating the provision of data is critical to advancing this activity. A committed focal point for each country, dedicated to supplying data for the MPA database is highly desirable.

- Factsheets on the MPAs

31. Factsheets on the MPA's listed under SPAW were compiled by the SPAW-RAC using the data provided by the Parties and reviewed by the managers. Additionally, factsheets for several other MPAs were generated from the CaMPAM Regional MPA Database. Full MPA datasets can be downloaded in PDF formats as well as interactive maps.

- Marine protected areas best management practices briefs

32. This collection of issue briefs was funded by the Government of Italy through the project in support of the Caribbean Challenge Initiative. It was designed to promote best MPA management practices and address critical capacity building efforts that support effective, ecologically resilient and socially equitable marine resource management. The briefs do not aim to present an exhaustive exploration of key management issues, challenges and solutions. Rather, each brief provides an introduction to the issue for managers, wardens, funders, policymakers and other marine resource professionals interested in coastal and marine resource management.

33. The briefs can be downloaded from SPAW-RAC web site (<http://www.car-spaw-rac.org/?Factsheets-on-best-practices-for>). Designed as stand-alone documents, they may also prove useful as a compilation and can be used in training activities, project development, etc. across the Caribbean. Selected case study examples, best practices and lessons learned, are highlighted with links to enable further exploration of the issues. Additional best practice examples exist on various issues at Caribbean MPAs and beyond, and thus readers are encouraged to explore the CaMPAM website and Internet forum for more information. New briefs addressing other critical management topics may be added to this collection in the future.



**WHAT IS THE ISSUE?**

Governance is a broad term that encompasses the legislative and jurisdictional framework, policies, and mechanisms used to support decision-making and the use of land in a sector of responsibility. In nature, effective marine resource governance requires long-term commitment to develop the formal and informal arrangements, institutional capacity, public engagement processes and work between the concerned stakeholders to manage the present and future generations or create a system of authority and accountability; governance helps shape resource management planning, implementation and development of shared social norms regarding sustainable use of the marine environment. Progressive governance models recognize and integrate traditional, indigenous and market driven approaches that build effective, ecologically resilient and socially equitable MPAs.

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) recognize that most types of government (see table 1) undertake governance. Several governments or management entities are responsible for marine governance. Each is shaped or defined and sometimes reinforcing attitudes regarding decision-making processes and institutional management authority. A distinction of government and authority in marine governance is that government is responsible for creating and enforcing laws, while the traditional form of governance is more about, on the one hand, increasing co-management (where government agencies and users are effectively working within the wider Caribbean region) governance and shared responsibility in any approach, the institutional arrangements, governance identity and level of public involvement and effort, MPA design, implementation and potential for long-term success.

### III. BUILDING A NETWORK OF MPA MANAGERS, MENTORS AND CONSERVATION LEADERS

34. The CaMPAM Network (defined by its Internet membership list and the participation in fora, training activities, projects and exchanges) has expanded significantly.

35. CaMPAM's membership list has reached 900 members and counting. The forum not only provides information on a variety of subjects related to marine resources research and management (publications, initiatives, meetings, vacancies, grant opportunities, projects, MPA issues and achievements, newsletters, etc.), but has also served as a platform for information requests and discussion, as well as to disseminate messages from other relevant Internet Lists (GLISPA-Discuss, WCPA-marine, GCFI net, Coral List, Caribbean Biodiversity, GCFI net, among others). Its increasing use by conservation organizations with strong involvement in MPA issues in the Caribbean is an indication of its increasing reputation within the marine conservation research and management community. Messages disseminated through CaMPAM from October 2012 to September 2014 has continued to grow with approximately fifty-four (54) messages generated on average each month, with a marked increase noted in 2014.

36. The members represent not only MPA managers and other staff, but also governmental and non-governmental institutions and organizations involved and/or interested in issues relevant to marine conservation science, education and practice.

37. The increasing participation of MPA managers in CaMPAM activities, as well as their involvement in the establishment of national MPA networks, and their participation in regional exchanges and fora have all contributed to the development of a group of conservation leaders and potential mentors on MPA management for sites and countries with less capacity.

38. The CaMPAM website (<http://campam.gcfi.org/campam.php>), hosted and managed by GCFI, has expanded and improved and more information has been posted, including the page on the CaMPAM-ECMMAN, the Training of Trainers reports, the Small Grants and Exchanges summaries and other initiatives.
39. Contribution to national and international marine conservation initiatives - CaMPAM has contributed to several national and international MPA initiatives in different capacities, namely:
- BIOPAMA (training activity for MPA junior officers)
  - An expert consultation workshop for the WWF Marine Alliance (Suriname, March 2014)
  - GCFI (held annually in November)
  - TNC (Scientific Forum, February, 2014)
  - The GEF-UNDP Project for developing a national system of MPAs (Colombia, 2013)
  - The UNOPS - coordinated CLME project
  - The International Marine Protected Areas Congress (Marseille, November, 2013) which involved the design, facilitation and/or participation in several workshops, including “*Regional MPA networks: their contribution to achieve the Aichi targets*” aimed at: 1) emphasizing the importance of regional MPA networks; 2) stimulating discussions and exchange amongst several regional MPA networks regarding their contribution to achieve the Aichi targets; and 3) strengthening collaborations among different regional network of MPA managers and stakeholders.



For the first time, the Caribbean (CaMPAM) and the Mediterranean (MedPAN) coordinators of networks of MPA professionals gave a joint presentation “Human networks and ecological network: two sides of a coin” on how human MPA networks can contribute in developing ecological networks. In addition, the presentation was a symbolic statement of the commitment of both networks to collaborate across the ocean for strengthening MPA management capacity in both biogeographic regions (and UNEP Regional Seas Programmes) - the Wider Caribbean and the Mediterranean. As a result, the publication “*Marine protected areas management in the Caribbean and Mediterranean Seas: making them more than paper parks*” (by Georgina Bustamante, Purificacio Canals, Giuseppe Di Carlo, Marina Gomei, Marie Romani, Helene Souan and Alessandra Vanzella-Khouri) was published in a special issue of *Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems* (24, Supplement 2: 153-165, Wiley Online Library DLI:10.1002/aqc.2503).

**Table 1. Projects supported by the CaMPAM-ECMMAN Small Grants (€78,000 each)**

Country	Title	Responsible institutions	Objectives
Grenada	Strengthening Management and Enforcement Capacity and Building Understanding about MPAs in Grenada.	Grenada Fund for Conservation and Grenada Fisheries Dept. (Nat. MPA Coordination)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Implement education and communication programmes on the role of effective MPAs for the conservation and sustainable use of the coastal environment and the socioeconomic prosperity of the nation.</li> <li>2. Strengthen enforcement capacity within MPAs nationally.</li> <li>3. Improvement of staff capacity within MPAs nationally.</li> <li>4. Implement a research and bio-physical monitoring programme within MPAs nationally.</li> <li>5. Use the monitoring programme to advocate for and implement evidence-based policies around MPAs.</li> </ol>
St. Lucia	Strengthening of the Pointe Sable Environmental Protection Area along the South-East Coast of Saint Lucia	Saint Lucia National Trust in collaboration with the Ministries of Agriculture, Food Production, Fisheries, Co-operatives and Rural Development and Sustainable Development, Energy, Science and Technology	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Development and implementation of a biophysical monitoring plan.</li> <li>2. Boundary demarcation, resource mapping and zonation within the PSEPA</li> <li>3. Reduction in the sources of pollution.</li> <li>4. Ensure long-term financial sustainability of PSEPA.</li> <li>5. Improve the outflow of information on the PSEPA in the wider public.</li> <li>6. Increase capacity of St. Lucians to serve as MPA trainers.</li> </ol>
Antigua and Barbuda	A multifaceted approach to strengthening management of the NEMMA, Antigua and Barbuda	Environmental Awareness Group (EAG) in collaboration with the Fisheries Division	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop management capacity for NEMMA through personnel training, regional exchanges, stakeholder engagement, increased service provision (moorings), as well as office space.</li> <li>2. Gather baseline biophysical, geographical and socio-economic data on marine habitats and resources within NEMMA to inform livelihoods potential, zoning, planning for long-term monitoring and other management strategies.</li> <li>3. Develop a public awareness programme for the general public about MMA objectives of sustainable resource utilization and conservation.</li> </ol>
St. Kitts and Nevis	Establishment of two Marine Managed Areas (The Narrows Marine Reserve and The Narrows Fishing Priority Area) in St. Kitts and Nevis.	Nevis Historical and Conservation Society in collaboration with the Department of Marine Resources	Establishment of The Narrows Marine Reserve and The Narrows Fishing Priority Area through a process of legislation and consultation with local stakeholders.
Dominica	Developing an effective and sustainable community-based management regime for the Cabrits National Park in Dominica	Tantan Village Development Corporation in collaboration with Portsmouth Fisheries Cooperative Society, the Toucari Beach Development Corporation, the Portsmouth Association of Yacht Services, the Cottage Village Council, the Portsmouth Town Council, the Dominica Air and Sea Port Authority and the Fisheries Division	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensure that activities executed and planned for the area are consistent with the provisions of the Fisheries Act.</li> <li>2. Promote the optimum utilization and maintenance of the integrity of the biodiversity of the ecosystem therein.</li> <li>3. Plan programmes and projects that enhance avoidance of user conflicts among stakeholders.</li> <li>4. Guarantee the rights and privilege to local area stakeholders.</li> </ol>
St. Vincent and the Grenadines (still under review)	Strengthening Management Capacity at Existing and New MCAs in St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG)	Sustainable Grenadines Inc. in collaboration with the National Parks, Rivers, and Beaches Authority	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assess water quality at South Coast Marine Conservation Area and the Tobago Cayes Marine Park to determine the highest and establish remediation measures.</li> <li>2. Establish an efficient enforcement programme for SCMMA and TCMP.</li> <li>3. Assess the livelihoods of stakeholders in and around the South Coast MCA in relation to their livelihood challenges/opportunities as a result of creating the SCMCA.</li> <li>4. Conduct a gap assessment of the CCI 20% goal in SVG and examine current management practices of all MCAs, all drawing from the Grenadines marine zoning plan developed by SusGren.</li> <li>5. Nominate 2 SPAW sites.</li> </ol>