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and Wildlife (SPA)W) in the Wider Caribbean  
Region

Montego Bay, Jamaica, 5 October 2010

**STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORKPLAN AND BUDGET FOR THE SPAW  
REGIONAL PROGRAMME FOR THE 2008-2009 BIENNIUM**

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**ACRONYMS**

ACS	Association of Caribbean States
AMEP	Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution
AGGRA	Atlantic and Gulf Rapid Reef Assessment
BMPs	Better Management Practices
CaMPAM	Caribbean Marine Protected Areas Managers (Network)
CABI	CAB International (formerly Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau)
CARICOMP	Caribbean Coastal and Marine Productivity (Programme)
CAR/RCU	Caribbean Regional Coordinating Unit
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CCA	Caribbean Conservation Association
CCA-CCAMP	CCA-Coastal and Marine Management Programme
CEN	Caribbean Environmental Network (Project)
CEP	Caribbean Environment Programme
CHA-CAST	Caribbean Hotel Association-Caribbean Alliance for Sustainable Tourism
CI	Conservation International
CIT	Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Marine Turtles
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CMS	Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
COP	Conference of Parties
CORAL	Coral Reef Alliance
CREP	Caribbean Regional Environmental Programme
CRFM	Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism
CTO	Caribbean Tourism Organization
ECCN	Eastern Caribbean Cetacean Network
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
GISP	Global Invasive Species Programme
GCFI	Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute
GCRMN	Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEO	Global Environment Outlook
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
IABIN	Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network
IBA	Important Bird Area
IAC	Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles
ICRAN	International Coral Reef Action Network
ICRI	International Coral Reef Initiative
IFAW	International Fund for Animal Welfare
IGM	Intergovernmental Meeting
IMO	International Maritime Organization
INVEMAR	Centro de Investigaciones Marinas de Colombia
IRF	Island Resources Foundation
ISTAC	Interim Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee
IWC	International Whaling Commission
IUCN	The World Conservation Union
LBS	Land-based Sources and Activities of Marine Pollution
MAR	Mesoamerican Region
MBRS	Mesoamerican Barrier Reef System Project of CCAD/GEF/World Bank
MEAs	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
MER	Marine Education and Research Centre
MPA	Marine Protected Area
NACRI	Netherlands Antilles Coral Reef Initiative
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NFWF	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

OAS	Organization of American States
OECS	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
OECS-ESDU	OECS-Environment and Sustainable Development Unit
DoS/OIE (OESI)	U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs
RAC	Regional Activity Centre
RCP	Regional Coordination Plan
ROLAC	Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean
SCSCB	Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds
SIDA	Swedish International Development Agency
SIDS-POA	Small Islands Developing States-Programme of Action
SOE	State of the Environment
SPAW	Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife
STAC	Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNEP-DTIE	UNEP-Department of Technology, Industry & Economics
UNEP-WCMC	UNEP-World Conservation and Monitoring Centre
UNF	United Nations Foundation
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UWI-NRMP	University of the West Indies-Natural Resources Management Programme
UWI-CMS	University of the West Indies – Centre for Marine Sciences
WECAFC	Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission of FAO
WCPA	World Commission on Protected Areas
WIDECAST	Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network
WW2BW	White Water to Blue Water Initiative

## **STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORKPLAN AND BUDGET FOR THE SPAW REGIONAL PROGRAMME FOR THE 2008 – 2009 BIENNIUM**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

1. This report presents the priorities of the Regional Programme on Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife in the Wider Caribbean Region (SPAW Programme) and the status of activities for the biennium 2008-2009.

2. The Workplan of the Regional Programme on Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) for the biennium 2008-2009 was developed by:

- The Fourth Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) of the Contracting Parties (COP) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean Region (Gosier, Guadeloupe, France, 2-5 July 2008); and

Subsequently approved by:

- The Fifth Meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean Region (8 September 2008, St. John's, Antigua & Barbuda) and the Thirteenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and Tenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (St. John's, Antigua & Barbuda, 9-12 September 2008)

3. The SPAW Protocol entered into force on 18 June 2000, and since the Fourth Meeting of the COP, with the accession of Guyana there are, to date, fourteen Governments that are Contracting Parties (Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, France, Guyana, the Netherlands, Panama, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America and Venezuela).

4. The objectives of the SPAW Programme are to:

(a) respond to the objectives of the SPAW Protocol and address priority biodiversity issues at the regional level, in keeping with the mandate provided by the Protocol to significantly increase the number of, and improve the management of, national protected areas and species in the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR).

(b) develop a strong regional capability for the co-ordination of information exchange, training and technical assistance in support of national biodiversity conservation efforts.

(c) coordinate activities with the relevant international biodiversity treaties and initiatives such as the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Ramsar, Bonn, CITES and Western Hemisphere Conventions, and the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) and its global networks.

5. During the period 2008-2009, activities focused on assisting countries with the management of MPAs and protected species, as well as coordinating with other environmental agreements and programmes dealing with biodiversity issues of particular relevance to the SPAW Protocol such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), the World Heritage Convention (WHC) of UNESCO, the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI).

6. Specific activities for this biennium fell under five major programme elements (sub-programmes), these being:

- (a) Programme Coordination;
- (b) Strengthening of Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean Region (including training and capacity building for marine protected areas management);
- (c) Development of Guidelines for Protected Areas and Species Management;
- (d) Conservation of Threatened and Endangered Species; and
- (e) Conservation and Sustainable Use of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems (including ICRI activities)

Additionally, the Secretariat focused on fundraising and streamlining SPAW activities as financial and human resources were limited. In this context, the activity on “Sustainable Tourism”, approved under the biennium, could not be implemented as expected given these limitations and the lack of cost-effective and synergistic opportunities with relevant initiatives.

## 2. STATUS OF SUB-PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES

7. The following sections provide a summary of the main activities implemented under the SPAW programme for the 2008-2009 biennium, and major accomplishments. Annex 1 provides the summary of costs and expenditures for the biennium.

### **2.1. Programme Coordination**

#### *Status of Sub-programme Activities*

8. During the biennium 2008-2009 the day-to-day coordination for implementation of the programme activities continued to be overseen by the following team, in addition to a full-time CaMPAM Coordinator for 2009-2010, funded by the United States NOAA’s Coral Reef Conservation Program.

<b>2.1 PROGRAMME COORDINATION</b>	
<b>Position</b>	<b>Main Functions</b>
<b>UNEP-CEP Secretariat, Kingston, Jamaica</b>	
Programme Officer for SPAW	Responsible for overall coordination of the SPAW Programme
Bilingual Secretary/Assistant	Support SPAW programme implementation and development
<b>SPAW Regional Activity Centre, Guadeloupe, supported by the Government of France</b>	
<p>The SPAW RAC was staffed with a Director, a Programme Officer and a part-time Documents Officer. It has been hosted by the National Park of Guadeloupe since early 2009, and the staff has been reinforced : apart from the Director, 3 people are now-working on a full-time basis for the SPAW RAC (a Project Coordinator, a Marine Mammals Project Coordinator and a Programme Assistant). The RAC supported the secretariat with various activities, especially coordination of actions mandated by the STAC and COP. In particular, coordination of the electronic working groups on guidelines for listing protected areas and on implementation of the marine mammal action plan; fundraising : support to thematic activities (sea turtles, birds); participation in and/or support to regional projects of relevance for the SPAW workplan; and the review and translation of a number of documents. Additionally, one meeting was held annually between the secretariat and staff of the SPAW RAC during the biennium to coordinate and evaluate activities. The SPAW RAC covered the costs of these meetings</p>	

9. In keeping with the objectives of developing synergies, promoting the Protocol and optimizing resources, the following activities were completed:

- Memorandum of Cooperation with the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute for CaMPAM activities
- Memorandum of Cooperation with SPAW RAC for SPAW website development
- Letter of Agreement with UNOPS for implementation of the Management and Conservation of Reef Biodiversity and Reef Fisheries Pilot Project under the GEF Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project (CLME)

10. Coordination and communication was also established with the following programme and organizations on various matters of common interest, and in keeping with collaborative arrangements established with many of them:

- Birdlife International

- Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance
- Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)
- Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC)
- Western Central Atlantic Fisheries Commission (WECAFC) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO)
- World Conservation Union (IUCN)
- Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)
- Action Plan of UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNEP-ROLAC)
- Organization of Eastern Caribbean States-Environment and Sustainable Development Unit (OECS-ESDU)
- Association of Caribbean States (ACS)
- Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI)
- the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI)
- the Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Initiative (WHMSI),
- CAB International (CABI) for Latin America and the Caribbean,
- the International Whaling Commission (IWC), and
- the Society for the Conservation of Reef Fish Aggregations (SCRFA).

11. A number of meetings were organized and/or attended in order to continue promoting the Protocol, the Programme and develop synergies. Major meetings for SPAW implementation included:

- Meeting to Finalize the Guidelines and Criteria for the Evaluation of Protected Areas to be Listed under the Protocol for Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife. Gossier, Guadeloupe, France, 1 July 2008.
- Fourth Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean Region. Gossier, Guadeloupe, France, 2-5 July 2008.
- Fifth meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean Region. St. John's, Antigua & Barbuda, 8 September 2008.

Major meetings where significant input was provided were as follows: (meetings sponsored by other organizations were attended for the most part at the cost of the inviting organization).

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Date and Venue</b>	<b>Relation to Programme Objectives</b>
61 <sup>th</sup> Annual Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute Meeting (attended by SPAW RAC and CaMPAM Coordinator)	To represent CEP and lecture on Caribbean MPA issues and CaMPAM approach, networking and training tools	Guadeloupe 10-14 November 2008	Promotion of SPAW and CaMPAM; coordination/synergies with relevant institutions
ICRAN / 4 <sup>th</sup> ICRI East Asia Regional Workshop (attended by CaMPAM Coordinator)	To represent CEP and lecture on Caribbean MPA issues and CaMPAM approach, networking and training tools	Japan 17-19 November 2008	Promotion of SPAW and CaMPAM; coordination/synergies with relevant institutions
Ecosystem-based workshop (attended by CaMPAM Coordinator)	To represent CEP and lecture on Caribbean MPA issues and CaMPAM approach, networking and training tools	Barbados 10-12 December 2008	Promotion of SPAW and CaMPAM; coordination/synergies with relevant institutions

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Date and Venue</b>	<b>Relation to Programme Objectives</b>
World Heritage and Marine Protected Areas Workshop (attended by CaMPAM Coordinator)	To make a presentation on CEP and MPAs	Bahrain, 24-26 February 2009	Promotion of SPAW and CaMPAM; coordination/synergies with relevant institutions; contribution to improving criteria for nominations of marine sites
Training the trainers in marine protected areas management (regional English-speaking course) (attended by CaMPAM Coordinator)	To present basic concepts of marine protected areas (planning, research, monitoring, management and policies) as well as communication and training methods for replication at the national level.	Tobago, Trinidad and Tobago, 22 March – 4 April 2009	Strengthening of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network (CaMPAM)
Advisory visit to Colombia and Costa Rica at the invitation of Fundación Mar Viva (attended by CaMPAM Coordinator)	To lecture on status of National MPA networks to Government agencies on MPAs national system development	Colombia 13-18 April 2009 and Costa Rica 7-14 August 2009	Promotion of SPAW and CaMPAM at national level; coordination/synergies with relevant institutions
Training Workshop Principles & Practices for Establishing Resilient MPA Networks – Making it Happen (attended by CaMPAM Coordinator)	To lecture at George Mason University on the CaMPAM experience - as a social network to enhance MPA effectiveness in the Wider Caribbean	Washington, D.C. 17-19 May 2009	Promotion of SPAW and CaMPAM; coordination/synergies with relevant institutions
62 <sup>th</sup> Annual Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute Meeting (attended by CaMPAM Coordinator)	To allow sharing of information and lessons learned on marine resource management and best practices in the Wider Caribbean.	Venezuela 2- 6 November 2009	Promotion of SPAW and CaMPAM; coordination/synergies with relevant institutions; coordination of MPA session attended by 15 MPA managers and fishers, supported by UNEP SPAW program
Workshop for Marine Mammal Stranding Response in the Dutch Caribbean (attended by SPAW RAC)	Review the techniques and protocols for responding to marine mammal strandings and to facilitate collaboration for a Dutch Caribbean stranding network; and, the exploration and establishment of a centralized archive of samples and database.	Curaçao 5-7 November 2009	Promotion of SPAW's Marine Mammal Action Plan priorities



<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Date and Venue</b>	<b>Relation to Programme Objectives</b>
Workshop for Marine Mammal Stranding Response in the French Caribbean (attended by SPAW RAC)	Review the techniques and protocols for responding to marine mammal strandings and to facilitate collaboration for a French Caribbean stranding network; and, the exploration and establishment of a centralized archive of samples and database.	Guadeloupe, 8-10 January 2010	Promotion of SPAW's Marine Mammal Action Plan priorities
ICRI General Meeting	Through a dedicated one-day session, share information on challenges and actions for coral reef conservation in the Caribbean and related activities	Monaco 19-22 January 2010	Strengthen links between ICRI and SPAW regarding coral reef monitoring, conservation and management
Workshop for Marine Mammal Stranding Response in the Spanish Caribbean (attended by SPAW RAC)	Review the techniques and protocols for responding to marine mammals strandings and to facilitate collaboration for a French Caribbean stranding network; and, the exploration and establishment of a centralized archive of samples and database	Panama 22-23 April 2010	Promotion of SPAW's Marine Mammal Action Plan priorities
Training the trainers in marine protected areas management (regional Spanish-speaking course) (attended by CaMPAM Coordinator)	To present basic concepts of marine protected areas (planning, research, monitoring, management and policies) as well as communication and training methods for replication at the national level.	Dominican Republic, 7-10 June 2010	Strengthening of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network (CaMPAM)

12. Activities undertaken by the SPAW Regional Activity Centre (SPAW RAC) in Guadeloupe. See UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.29/INF.7 for further details.

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Status</b>
a) Support CaMPAM network in the carrying out of training courses targeting marine protected areas ("training the trainers" programme)	Completed
b) Support the testing of criteria adopted by SPAW used to assess the compatibility of Caribbean protected areas with SPAW protocol requirements and of the proposed outline format for reports, and prepare a revised format for reports	Completed

Activities	Status
c) Further development of e-group of marine mammal experts, coordination of the e-group and support convening of stranding workshops within the framework of SPAW's Marine mammal action plan and follow-up activities	E-group mandate adapted and e-group discussions ongoing; workshops implemented (Dutch-Caribbean islands, Spanish and French speaking countries)
d) In partnership with WIDECASST improve dissemination of information and translation of publications on sea turtles and support elaboration of new STRAPS	Completed
e) In partnership with Birdlife and SCSCB, improve dissemination of information and publication on birds	Completed
f) Fundraising in coordination with the secretariat	On-going
g) Promotion of the SPAW Protocol and its objectives to assist with its ratification by non-Parties	On-going; new accession of Guyana
h) Support the preparation and translation of SPAW/COP6 Meeting	Completed

Sub-programme Outputs

13. The major outputs of Programme Coordination are:

Outputs	Status
a) The Sixth Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP6) to the SPAW Protocol	Completed - Montego Bay, Jamaica, 5 October 2010
b) Project proposals in support of SPAW objectives and funding	Completed – (details provided under each major activity area below)
c) The Workplan and Budget for 2010-2011	Completed – (see UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.29/4)
d) Increased collaboration and synergies with relevant organizations and initiatives within and outside of the region	Completed – particularly with the CMS, IAC, ICRI, the IWC and Ramsar secretariats
e) Increased involvement by governments in SPAW activities and additional Parties joining the SPAW Protocol.	New accession by Guyana. Governments approached by secretariat regarding ratification of SPAW Protocol included: Antigua, Bahamas, Costa Rica and Guatemala

14. The secretariat continued to coordinate and cooperate, as feasible, with other initiatives and projects relevant to coastal and marine ecosystems in the region, including:

- a) The GEF Project on Sustainable Management of the Shared Marine Resources of the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME) and Adjacent Regions (see details under 2.5); and
- b) The AMEP Projects on Integrating Watershed and Coastal Area Management (IWCAM) in the Small Island Development States (SIDS) of the Caribbean; and on Reducing Pesticide Run-off to the Caribbean Sea approved by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and under implementation through the CEP

**2.2. Strengthening of Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean Region**

Status of Sub-programme Activities

15. Status of activities implemented during the biennium 2008 – 2009

<b>2.2 STRENGTHENING OF PROTECTED AREAS</b>	
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Status</b>
<p>16. Support to the activities of the CaMPAM Network and Forum Partnership building (see details in UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.29/INF.5)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engaging individuals as members of CaMPAM Leadership and Resource Team (CLRT) to provide guidance, assist with the identification of grant and collaboration opportunities, reliable sources of MPA data for MPA database, information dissemination, trainers, etc.;</li> <li>• Exploring potential of developing collaborative activities with different organizations.</li> <li>• Support a technical session and organizational meeting of MPAs at the annual meetings of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute , to promote the exchange of information among managers, fishers and scientists.</li> <li>• Development of the 2-year project “Reducing Marine Litter in the Wider Caribbean: Developing and Implementing Best Waste Management Practices”, through a process of consultation with CaMPAM members. It aims at improving marine conservation priorities by reducing litter in partner MPAs in five sites of Belize, Jamaica, Grenada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and The Bahamas.</li> </ul>	<p>Completed - Funding from US NOAA supported the coordinator position.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leadership and Resources Team established and active. Twenty members of the Team provide guidance to CaMPAM activities.</li> <li>• On-going. Twelve organizations were engaged for support (national, regional NGOs) to administrative and programme delivery.</li> <li>• Completed. Special session "Success Stories in Marine Resource Management and Conservation in the Wider Caribbean: Applying an Ecosystem-Based Approach and Facing the Climate Change", convened and held in Venezuela, November 2009, coordinated by CaMPAM, GCFI and CaribeSur with Funding from the Finland Embassy to Venezuela, NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program, attended and UNEP-CEP; ca. 25 fishers and resources/MPA managers attended. Increased communication among marine resource users with strategic positioning of CaMPAM with better governance, documented case studies ( Hol Chan Marine Reserve, Belize and Soufriere Marine Management Area, St. Lucia), and best practices using an ecosystem-approach.</li> <li>• On-going. Supported by the U.S. State Department with technical oversight provided by GCFI and CaMPAM Executive Team.</li> </ul>

<b>2.2 STRENGTHENING OF PROTECTED AREAS</b>	
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Status</b>
<p>17. Training of Trainers Programme (ToT) in MPA Management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training the trainers in marine protected areas management (regional English-speaking course) Tobago, March 2009</li> <li>• Training the trainers on marine protected areas management (regional Spanish-speaking course) Dominican Republic, June 2010</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed. The regional course was attended by 11 MPA practitioners from 8 English-speaking countries (Jamaica, St Lucia, Grenada, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, and Belize) were trained on the basics of MPA design, participatory planning research and monitoring, communication, management and policy; 80 more practitioners trained in 6 follow-up local courses. Funding from the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) , with additional support and contribution of several institutions, namely Buccoo Reef Trust (with funding from International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN) and the UN Foundation ); the OECS Protected Areas and Associated Livelihoods Project (OPAAL); GCFI, and NOAA’s Coral Reef Conservation Program .. Four local and international experts (from Buccoo Reef Trust, CANARI, GEF project contributed with extracurricular lectures.</li> <li>• Completed. The regional course was attended by 21 MPA practitioners from 6 Spanish -speaking countries (Cuba, Dominican Republic, Colombia, Venezuela and Costa Rica), 6 of which were supported by The Dominican Republic government (Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources) and The Nature Conservancy Central Caribbean Programme. Funding provided by the Ministry of Environment of Spain. Other institutions such as Solimar Intl. and Punta Cana Ecological Foundation provided extra lecturers. Several applicants from non-SPAW parties were not accepted. The course emphasized the Reef Resilience principles and approach to MPA design, the economic valuation of environmental services, the creation of alternative livelihoods such as community ecotourism business; and business planning.</li> </ul>
<p>18. Communication and information dissemination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance communications and exchanges through the existing CaMPAM list serv</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On-going. CaMPAM list increased with more than 100 new members subscribed, and reactivated with the daily dissemination of information and exchange with/by members. The list was migrated from its Yahoo platform to <a href="http://campam.gcfi.org/campam.php">http://campam.gcfi.org/campam.php</a> hosted by the GCFI (with better features, such as capacity for attachments, daily digest, and others)</li> </ul> <p>A brochure and a poster with updated information was produced, distributed/posted at the IMPAC and other meetings.</p>

<b>2.2 STRENGTHENING OF PROTECTED AREAS</b>	
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Status</b>
<p>19. Enhancement of the regional MPA database</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue updating and improving the MPA database following its new structure, in collaboration with CETA and in coordination with the World Protected Areas Database of UNEP-WCMC and the IABIN database, SPAW/RAC and CaMPAM partners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On-going. Progress has been slow due to the fact that many MPAs have no information available to provide. Data from ca. 40 additional MPAs has been obtained, although not all entered due to the different reasons. The MPA database was migrated to GCFI host (<a href="http://campam.gcfi.org/CaribbeanMPA/CaribbeanMPA.php">http://campam.gcfi.org/CaribbeanMPA/CaribbeanMPA.php</a>) and improved, and a database manager will be hired to keep the database fully functional.</li> </ul>
<p>20. Collaboration with CBD on 2012 targets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initiate process towards development of regional network of MPAs once PA Guidelines have been adopted.</li> <li>Support efforts of Parties to develop national MPA networks and in strengthening MPAs.</li> <li>Contribute to the 2012 targets, in particular regarding the development of the Caribbean Challenge Initiative which seeks to build support, political commitment, and financial sustainability, for protected areas in the region.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pilot project on the listing of protected areas under the SPAW Protocol initiated (see details in UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.29/3)</li> <li>On-going. Lectures on “Strengthening MPAs: from sites, to national and regional networks” were delivered to support National Campaigns for Strengthening National MPA Systems in Colombia and Costa Rica in collaboration with Fundación Mar Viva. Similar effort is planned for Panama.</li> <li>Activities under the Caribbean Challenge being identified with countries to support MPAs and MPA networks</li> </ul>
<p>21. Expanding the Grants Fund for promotion of sustainable practices within MPAs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support to six MPAs through the Small Grants Fund (at least US\$8,000 per area) based on relevant criteria developed for this purpose, and focusing on livelihoods for sustainable tourism and sustainable fishing practices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expanded the Small Grant Program for supporting exchanges to promote responsible/sustainable fishing practices, economic alternatives for fishers, and effective marine managed areas (4-10 scholarships of ca. \$9000/each), with the financial support of UNEP, Buccoo Reef Trust, and others willing to contribute with this program</li> </ul>

Sub-programme Outputs

22. The major outputs of this sub-Programme are:

<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Status</b>
A more effective CaMPAM Network and Forum through the enhanced coordination and partnership building.	Completed (see UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.29/INF.5)
A cadre of at least 30 trained MPA managers (Spanish and English speaking) in all aspects of MPA management and with training and	Completed (see UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.29/INF.5)

Outputs	Status
communication skills to transmit knowledge to others and their MPA staff	
Improved management at MPAs and better practices through assistance from the CaMPAM Small Grants Fund and complementary grants on sustainable fisheries	Completed (see UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.29/INF.5)
An updated SPAW website which includes the SPAW/RAC website ( since 2009)	Completed see <a href="http://www.cep.unep.org">www.cep.unep.org</a> and <a href="http://www.car-spaw-rac.org">www.car-spaw-rac.org</a>
Database of the MPAs in the Wider Caribbean largely updated and available through the SPAW website	On-going
Increased coordination with relevant initiatives and efforts in support of protected areas and collaboration with GCFI, Buccoo Reef Trust and OPAAL (OECS Protected Areas and Associated Livelihood Project) ,ICRAN, UNESCO-WHS, UNEP, EBM Caribbean and IMPAC.	On-going

### **2.3 Development of Guidelines for Protected Areas and Species Management**

#### *Status of Sub-programme Activities*

23. Status of activities implemented during the 2008-2009 biennium

<b>2.3 DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDELINES FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND SPECIES MANAGEMENT</b>	
Activities	Status
<p>24. Implementation of pilot activity to test the guidelines for the evaluation of protected areas to be listed under the SPAW Protocol :</p> <p>a) coordination of the PA criteria working group b) selection of a few protected areas to participate in the pilot project and test the guidelines and the annotated format for reports c) preparation of draft reports on selected PAs d) revision by the SPAW/RAC in collaboration with the PA working group, of the annotated format</p>	<p>Completed. 9 Protected areas from 5 countries were proposed and approved for participation in the pilot project and a presentation report was prepared for each of them using the annotated format and the approved criteria and guidelines.</p> <p>Further to the transmission of these reports together with comments and inputs from participants regarding the format, the format for PA reporting by SPAW Parties has been revised and improved and is ready for final adoption. A preliminary list of nine PA (the ones that participated in the pilot project) is proposed for adoption under SPAW. See details and recommendations in the PA criteria group report (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.29/INF.3).</p>
<p>25. Develop criteria for the assessment of exemptions to Article 11 of the SPAW Protocol: creation, whenever feasible, of a dedicated working group to agree on criteria and process for the submission and assessment of exemptions to article 11</p>	<p>Delayed. Due to a lack of time and resources to create the working group. However, the French Government has requested the SPAW/RAC perform a review of various existing exemption systems under regional agreements and national legislations in order to get an overview of how the issue has been dealt with in other contexts and to provide the future working group with materials to start discussions. A draft report on this review will be presented at COP6 for information and further recommendations</p>

<b>2.3 DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDELINES FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND SPECIES MANAGEMENT</b>	
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Status</b>
26. Develop criteria and guidelines to prevent species from becoming threatened or endangered	Delayed, according to decisions of COP 5 due to the numerous other priorities
27. Application of the criteria for listing species in the Annexes to the Protocol : In close collaboration with the IUCN Caribbean Initiative and its Regional Red List component, start a review of SPAW annexes	Postponed, due to the delay in the Caribbean Red List process launching.

Sub-programme Outputs

28. The major outputs of this sub-programme are:

<b>Output</b>	<b>Status</b>
A list of protected areas under the SPAW Protocol	In progress. Substantive outputs produced, with a revised annotated format for reports on submitted protected areas and a preliminary list of 9 PA proposed for adoption. See details and recommendations in the PA criteria group report (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.29/INF.3)
Preliminary criteria for assessment of exemptions under Article 11	Pending but preliminary review under preparation in view of providing the future dedicated working group with material to start discussions
Guidelines and criteria to prevent species from becoming threatened and endangered	Pending
Proposed threatened and endangered species to be listed under the Annexes of the SPAW Protocol	Pending until the IUCN Red List project has started. The IUCN Red List project should start in late 2010, the application of the criteria could then be launched in 2010-2011 (see SPAW Workplan for 2010-2011)

**2.4 Conservation of Threatened and Endangered Species**

Status of Sub-programme Activities

29. Status of activities implemented during the 2008-2009 biennium

<b>2.4 CONSERVATION OF THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES</b>	
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Status</b>
30. Conservation of Marine Mammals (in collaboration with ECCN, WDCC, IFAW, IUCN Species Survival Commission, and SPAW/RAC) with the implementation of priority actions identified by the Barbados Regional Workshop of Experts (July 2005) and reviewed by the SPAW COP4.	On-going
a) Workshop for Marine Mammal Stranding Response in the Dutch Caribbean (Curaçao, 5-7 November 2009)	Completed. 21 participants from governmental departments, and non-governmental organizations from six Dutch Caribbean islands. With the support of Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA), Curaçao Aquarium, the Netherlands Antilles government and US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and organized by Southern Caribbean Cetacean Network (SCCN) and Eastern Caribbean Cetacean Network (ECCN)
b) Workshop for Marine Mammal Stranding Response in the French Caribbean (Guadeloupe, 8-10 January 2010)	Completed. 30 French-speaking Caribbean participants from governmental departments and NGOs from Haiti, the French Antilles, and French Guyana. With the support of French Ministry of Environment (DIREN Guadeloupe) US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the SPAW-RAC and organized by Association Evasion Tropicale (AET) and Eastern Caribbean Cetacean Network (ECCN)
c) Workshop for Marine Mammal Stranding Response in the Spanish Caribbean (Panama, 22-23 April 2010)	Completed. 29 Spanish-speaking Caribbean participants from 13 Governments. With support from the US Office of Protected Species, La Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente del Gobierno Nacional de la República de Panamá (ANAM) and the SPAW-RAC
d) Implementation of the revised Regional Management Plan for the West Indian Manatee	Delayed. The revised Management Plan has been finalized to incorporate recommendations of COP5 and is being translated into Spanish



<b>2.4 CONSERVATION OF THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES</b>	
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Status</b>
31. Conservation of Sea Turtles (in collaboration with WIDECAST)	On-going.
a) Development of tools in support of conservation of Sea Turtles	Publication by WIDECAST of : (i) the world's first complete regional atlas of sea turtle nesting beaches mapped using GIS technologies and available online in an interactive format (WIDECAST Technical Report No. 6.); (ii) a field manual of recommended practices for sea turtle population monitoring; (iii) a handbook on safeguarding sea turtle nesting beaches for use by hoteliers and their coastal property owners (WIDECAST Technical Report No. 9); (iv) two national beachfront lighting assessments with recommendations for reducing sea turtle mortality due to coastal lighting (WIDECAST Technical Reports No. 11 and 12) and (v) a husbandry manual for the care of sick and injured sea turtles. In preparation : regional synthesis on tagging data
b) Three Regional Annual Meetings ( Mexico, 21-22 January 2008, St. Kitts and Nevis 18-20 December 2008 and Martinique, 1-4 March 2010).	Completed. Attended by over 30 nations of the Wider Caribbean region where research and conservation priorities were determined, and the resulting recommendations led to a series of workshops held at several locations for the purpose of peer-training in population monitoring and trend analysis, ecotourism and alternative livelihood creation, program evaluation and fund-raising, education and outreach, bycatch mitigation, and sea turtle medicine.
c) Development of new Sea Turtle Recovery Action Plans (STRAP)	On-going. Finalization/printing of Panama STRAP, finalization of Trinidad STRAP, preliminary work for St Vincent and the Grenadines STRAP
d) Continue to support the Index Monitoring Site for Critically Endangered hawksbill sea turtles ( <i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i> )	On-going. Guidelines and criteria for monitoring reproduction success on index nesting beaches are in preparation
e) Promotion of international legislation on sea turtle conservation	On-going. Multinational efforts successfully reduced international trade in Central America, protecting leatherbacks nesting in the border regions between Costa Rica and Panama. Cuba and The Bahamas both closed their sea turtle fisheries during the biennium. The Cayman Islands amended their marine turtle fishery legislation to include maximum size limits (thereby protecting large turtles from exploitation), extending the closed season to eight months, and banning the use of set-nets.

<b>2.4 CONSERVATION OF THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES</b>	
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Status</b>
<p>32. Conservation of birds (in collaboration with SCSCB and Birdlife)</p> <p>a) Development of tools support of conservation of Birds</p> <p>b) Continue to support efforts for conservation of the whistling-duck</p>	<p>Publication by BirdLife International of the Important Birds Areas in the Caribbean. On-going : publication of identification cards for land birds for St Lucia and the French Antilles</p> <p>On-going : support for capacity building in Cuba, St-Lucia and the Dominican Republic regarding the implementation of the Caribbean Waterbird census that will improve knowledge on the status of the whistling-duck</p>
<p>33. Update and expansion of SPAW Species Database (with CEPNET and CI)</p> <p>a) In coordination with relevant organizations and SPAW Parties, updating and expansion of the SPAW species database as required.</p>	<p>Pending until resources are made available</p>
<p>34. Control of Alien and Invasive Species (in collaboration with GISP, UNEP, CBD, IMO)</p>	<p>Collaboration with CABI on the GEF project “Mitigation the threats of Invasive Alien Species in the insular Caribbean” that encompasses the Bahamas, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago : the project has started and a first regional consultation on a draft regional strategy against IAS was held in Tobago in June 2010</p> <p>In collaboration with ICRI and CABI and with financial support of the SPAW-RAC, support to the Lion-fish workshop organized in Mexico, 24-28 August 2010 to establish a draft regional strategy to prevent and control this species, and preparation of information factsheets to be presented at SPAW COP</p>

Sub-programme Outputs

35. The major outputs of this sub-programme are:

<b>Output</b>	<b>Status</b>
<p>A Regional Action Plan for Marine Mammal (MMAP) conservation and priority actions implemented, including manatee conservation priority actions</p>	<p>In progress. Priority Actions implemented with three regional workshops on strandings, preparation of a whale-watching workshop to be held in early 2011, development of an expert forum through the evolution of the mandate of the e-group, and fund-raising efforts secured continuation of MMAP implementation for the biennium 2010-2011 (see SPAW Workplan 2010-2011: LifeWeb Project and US NFWF Project on Improving Capacity on the Wider Caribbean region). For further details on implementation and proposed recommendations for 2010-2011, see the dedicated MMAP Report (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.29/INF.4)</p>

Output	Status
Sea turtle conservation with population monitoring protocols and support for index sites	In progress. Substantive outputs produced, with important tools and publications for sea turtle conservation
Birds conservation with publication of educational materials and special efforts on the whistling-duck	In progress. Substantive outputs produced, with publications and monitoring tools for birds conservation
An updated and more comprehensive SPAW species database available through the CEP website	Pending until funding becomes available
A programme for marine invasive species developed	In progress.

## **2.5 Conservation and Sustainable Use of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems**

### *Status of Sub-Programme Activities*

36. Status of activities implemented during the 2008-2009 biennium

<b>2.5 CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF COASTAL AND MARINE ECOSYSTEMS</b>	
Activities	Status
37. Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME) Project 1st Steering Committee Meeting and Inception Workshop	Completed. September 2009 in Cartagena, Colombia Major issues tackled: a. Review and Update Project Components, including the Pilot Projects b. Approval of the First Year Work Plan and Budget
38. Launch of CLME website	Completed. CLME website launched in September 2009 ( <a href="http://clme.iwlearn.org/">http://clme.iwlearn.org/</a> )
39. LME Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and Strategic Action Planning (SAP) Training Workshop	Completed November 2009 1. To train and involve national experts on the TDA process including identification of the major transboundary problems, their scale and location, defining environmental impacts and socio-economic consequences, causal chain analysis, problem-risk analysis and stakeholder and governance analysis. 2. To give national experts an overview of the key steps in the SAP process, including the bridge between the TDA and the SAP, determining long term vision, ecosystem quality objectives, short term goals, and political acceptance.
40. Completion of funding agreements for the CLME Pilot Project: Reef Fisheries and Biodiversity	Funding agency: GEF Project timeline: January 2010 – December 2013 Implementing agency: Implementation: Agreement between UNEP and UNOPS signed in March 2010.
41. Selection of target sites for Pilot Project	Completed. Sea Flower Biosphere Reserve (Colombia), Pedro Bank (Jamaica), Caracol Bay/Montecristi and Pedernales/Point Marigot (Hispaniola's N & S coasts) in Dominican Republic/Haiti, and Grenada Bank and Grenadines Islands (St. Vincent & the Grenadines)

<b>2.5 CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF COASTAL AND MARINE ECOSYSTEMS</b>	
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Status</b>
42. Finalizing Pilot Project agreements with target countries	Ongoing. Project documents received for Sea Flower Biosphere Reserve, In discussion with Jamaica and Dominican Republic/Haiti to finalize project documents
43. Continue supporting the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI).	Completed
a) Promote celebration of the International Year of the Reef	Completed throughout the region
b) Continue to support the Caribbean coral reef monitoring nodes in the Caribbean	Completed. Support provided to the Southern Tropical America (STA) node coordinated by INVEMAR, Colombia. The node includes Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia and Venezuela.
Continue supporting the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI).	
c) Attended ICRI Meetings.	Completed. Secretariat participated at the ICRI General Meeting (Monaco, January 2010) and assisted with the planning of the Caribbean session at the event.

Sub-programme Outputs

44. The following represents the major outputs/outcomes for the Reef Fisheries & Biodiversity Pilot Project

<b>Output</b>	<b>Status</b>
Site selection and strengthened management frameworks	Site selection completed. Sea Flower Biosphere Reserve (Columbia), Pedro Bank (Jamaica), Caracol Bay/Montecristi and Pedernales/Point Marigot (Hispaniola's N & S coasts) in Dominican Republic/Haiti, and Grenada Bank and Grenadines Islands  Strengthening of management frameworks pending full implementation of pilot projects at respective sites.
Enhanced management regulations and enforcement mechanisms at selected sites	Pending full implementation of pilot projects at respective sites.
Public awareness and education outreach enhancement (regulations and enforcement emphasis)	Pending full implementation of pilot projects at respective sites.
Better practices and lessons learnt disseminated (horizontally and vertically)	Pending full implementation of pilot projects at respective sites.
Adaptive Management and Best Management Practices	Pending full implementation of pilot projects at respective sites.

<b>Output</b>	<b>Status</b>
Information on the status of coral reefs	Information submitted by regional nodes to GCRMN coordinators on the status of coral reefs. INVEMAR publication “Coral Reef Monitoring in Southern Tropical America, Revista de Biología Tropical/International Journal of Tropical Biology and Conservation (Vol. 58, May 2010)”. The publication includes 10 papers on the status of coral reefs in the STA region, as well as a strategy and recommendations for further action.

**Note:**

The Sustainable Tourism Activity was not implemented during the 2008-2009 biennium due to a lack of funding.

## Annex I: Status of Budget for the SPAW Programme for the 2008 – 2009 Biennium

Activity	2008				2009			
	Budgeted		Total Raised	Total Expenditure	Budgeted		Total Raised	Total Expenditure
	CTF	Other Contributions			CTF	Other Contributions		
SPAW								
2.1								
Programme Co-ordination (salary costs and COP Meeting covered by OCCC and Govt. Of France for RAC Staff)								
Promotion and Consultants	10,000	0	10,000	0	5,000	5,000	8,000	8,000
2.2								
Strengthening of protected areas in the Wider Caribbean Region	30,000	45,000	75,000 <sup>1</sup>	75,000	30,000	80,000	70,000	70,000 <sup>4</sup>
2.3								
Development of guidelines for management of protected areas and species	15,000	45,000	30,000 <sup>2</sup>	10,000	20,000	45,000	25,000 <sup>5</sup>	25,000
2.4								
Conservation of threatened and endangered species	50,000	70,000	55,000 <sup>3</sup>	55,000	60,000	110,000	80,000 <sup>6</sup>	15,000
2.5								
Conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine ecosystems	45,000	130,000	25,000	25,000	75,000	320,000 <sup>7</sup>	25,000	25,000
2.6								
Sustainable tourism	15,000	50,000	0	0	15,000	70,000	0	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>165,000</b>	<b>340,000</b>	<b>195,000</b>	<b>165,000</b>	<b>205,000</b>	<b>630,000</b>	<b>208,000</b>	<b>143,000</b>
Programme support costs								
13% (amount subject to change based on source of funds)	21,450	44,200	25,350	21,450	26,650	81,900	27,040	18,590
<b>TOTAL SPAW</b>	<b>186,450</b>	<b>384,200</b>	<b>220,350</b>	<b>186,450</b>	<b>231,650</b>	<b>711,900</b>	<b>235,040</b>	<b>161,590</b>

<sup>1</sup>From MacArthur Foundation and \$10,000 from CTF (does not include direct contributions to GCFI from NOAA for CaMPAM

<sup>2</sup>From the Government of France through the SPAW RAC

<sup>3</sup>Includes funds from the Government of France for Marine Mammal Action Plan implementation (\$25,000) and Sida for Queen Conch management plan with FAO/WECAFC (\$10,000)

<sup>4</sup>From MacArthur Foundation and UNEP Regional Seas Programme (US\$25,000) for MPA training and exchanges respectively. Does not include direct contributions from NOAA to GCFI for CaMPAM

<sup>5</sup>Unspent funds from 2008 (from SPAW RAC for implementation of pilot project)

<sup>6</sup>Includes funds raised from National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) through US Marine Mammal Commission for MMAP implementation in 2010 (US\$78,000). Does not include direct contributions raised from France and NOAA for marine mammal strandings workshops in 2010

<sup>7</sup>Funds from GEF CLME project only received in 2010