



## Regional Support to the Caribbean Challenge Initiative: MPA Networking, Strengthening and Regional Coordination

<b>Total Budget</b>	USD 1.5 million
<b>Funding Agencies</b>	Government of Italy UNEP - Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP)
<b>Executing Agency</b>	UNEP CEP
<b>Key Partners</b>	Countries of the Wider Caribbean with an initial emphasis on Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
<b>Additional Partners</b>	Global Island Partnership (GLISPA); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); World Bank; The Nature Conservancy (TNC); World Conservation Union (IUCN); OECS-NRMU
<b>Project Dates</b>	March 2010 – February 2012
<b>Duration</b>	24 Months (2 years)
<b>Project Goal</b>	The overall aim of this project is to support the establishment of a fully biologically representative, climate change resilient, and functional Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Network based on the Global Island Partnership commitments and initially focused on Global Environment Facility (GEF) supported projects in the Caribbean region.
<b>Expected Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhanced coherence and financial sustainability of a large-scale transboundary (national and ecoregional) Caribbean MPA Network consistent with international GLISPA commitments;</li> <li>• Regional network of MPA sites sharing and collaborating on common issues;</li> <li>• MPA regional database to support national MPA decision-making;</li> <li>• Improved capacity of MPA practitioners for more effective MPA management.</li> </ul>
<b>Components &amp; Proposed Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist countries with the development of their national MPA networks and support, where feasible, the development of subregional and transboundary representative biological networks and/or corridors;</li> <li>• Enhance capacity for effective MPA management, including targeted training courses, exchanges, mentorships and site visits addressing common needs and issues of Caribbean MPAs (including, where appropriate, sites from other regions within the GLISPA objectives);</li> <li>• Convene Annual Caribbean Challenge Regional Coordination Meeting to agree on common approaches for MPA development and management, including for MPA networks;</li> <li>• Establish regular regional communications system, including communication tools and publications;</li> <li>• Harmonise ecological and socioeconomic monitoring and indicators for MPA effectiveness (including consideration to global efforts such as GLISPA);</li> <li>• Data collection, analysis and MPA status reports through a regional MPA database to support national mechanisms for MPA decision-making;</li> <li>• Lessons learned made available through posting and dissemination for replication to other participating countries and other regions.</li> </ul>
<b>In coordination with GEF-Supported Projects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building a Sustainable National Marine Protected Area Network – The Bahamas</li> <li>• Sustainable Financing and Management of Eastern Caribbean Marine Ecosystems (in five Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) countries)</li> <li>• Re-engineering the National Protected Areas System in Order to Achieve Financial Sustainability – Dominican Republic</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Strengthening the Operational and Financial Sustainability of the National Protected Area System of Jamaica</li></ul>
<b>UNEP CEP Contact</b>	<p>Alessandra Vanzella-Khouri Programme Officer, SPAW United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP) 14-20 Port Royal Street Kingston, Jamaica</p> <p>Ph: (876) 922-9267-9 Fx: (876) 922-9292 Email: <a href="mailto:avk@cep.unep.org">avk@cep.unep.org</a> Visit our website at <a href="http://www.cep.unep.org">www.cep.unep.org</a></p>