EASTERN CARIBBEAN MARINE MANAGED AREAS NETWORK (ECMMAN) PROJECT

The CAMPAM-ECMMAN Small Grant Project Highlights for Grenada 2015

Education & Communication Programme

The CaMPAM ECMMAN SGP continues to support the implementation of the Reef Guardian Program in the Uganda Martyrs Roman Catholic Primary School. Classes and field activities resumed with the new school term in January 2015. In addition, the MPA program adopted a class period every Thursday with the Form 2 (Nutmeg C&D Class) at the Happy Hill Secondary School. Ms. Andrews and her team teach Nature Education to over 35 students between the ages of 13-15. The reef guardian activities were suspended for the fall/Michaelmas term to allow her to lend significant support to the “This is Who We Are” campaign activities. The program will resume on January 21st, 2016.

MPA Rangers and Staff Capacity Building

In May 2015, ECMMAN contracts for MPA Rangers (Ms. Xena Wellington and Mr. Christopher Alleyne) came to an end. Mr. Alleyne was contracted by Government as a full time ranger and Ms. Wellington will be starting the Marine Programme at SGU in fall 2015 and will no longer be working as a Ranger. Amhose Simpson was contracted in August 2015, as temporary ranger for the Molinere-Beausejour MPA under the Small Grants Program to replace Miss Xena Wellington.

In January 2015, Imani Trainee Kimberly Lewis join the MPA Team as a data clerk. Through the ECMMAN Programme she received further training in Computer Concepts and Applications. She is currently working in the Grand Mal Office.
Support for the 11th Training for Training Course in Grenada

The 11th edition of the Training of Trainers on MPA Management Regional Course, was hosted by the Grenada Fisheries Division, from 17 to 26 February, 2015. Twenty three (23) regional marine conservation professionals, including four from Grenada, participated in nine days of information sharing and best practices that could lead to more sustainable usage of marine protected areas (MPA) in their home countries. Participants was able to experience the underwater sculpture park and reef system at the Molinere Beausejour MPA which is now listed as a SPAW protected area.

TCMP Exchange Visit for MPA Staff

MPA Staff and representatives from partner organizations such as Grenada Fund for Conservation participated in learning exchange to the Tobago Cays Marine Park, Union Island, St. Vincent and the Grenadines from April 30 to May 6, 2015. The objective of this visit was to enhance the professional skills and knowledge of the rangers and staff, to increase the confidence and broadening the horizons with regard to MPA management and to enhance relationships within the MBMPA staff and with TCMP.

GMPA Staff had the opportunity to interact with the staff of TCMP, in particular, the Park Manager, who provided a wealth of information on the management aspect of the park. Some key outputs from the visit, particularly for MPA Management included: Model for sustainable financing – Managing the MPA as a business model, strategic approaches to Human Resources Management – autonomy to rangers to manage schedule and maintenance, operational strategies to maximize organizational outputs.

MBMPA and TCMP will be in dialogue to plan an exchange visit for the staff of TCMP to MBMPA in the near future.
Support for MPA Summer Camp

The MPA Summer Camp 2015 was held in July 2015 at the Happy Hill Secondary School. 40 children from surrounding communities participated in activities and lectures geared towards teaching them about their environment. Activities included snorkeling, boat rides, informative lectures and art and crafts. At the end of the camp each child received a certificate recognizing their participation in the summer camp.

Support for Awareness & Outreach

Support was provided for the "This is Who We Are" Campaign, which was launched on May 8, 2015. This campaign is part of the ECMMAN Awareness and Outreach component and will contribute to the ECMMAN objectives of 'strengthen the capacity of adaptive management of MPAs in Grenada. It focuses on building awareness of MPAs particularly through support the establishment of a new MPA i.e. Grand Anse MPA in the initial planning phases. This is to ensure that locals are aware fully aware and involved in the process of designation take ownership of the new MPA.
Support for Biophysical Monitoring Programme

The MPA Rangers (Ms. Wellington and Mr. Alleyne) were active participants in a number of the biophysical monitoring activities that were conducted during the course of 2015. Both of the rangers funded by the ECMMAN Project were trained in and conducted surveys to collect coral reef baseline data using the Atlantic Gulf Rapid Reef Assessment (AGRRA) protocol. Ms. Willington and Mr. Alleyne also participated in weekly Lionfish culling activities with and adjacent to the MBMPA as part of the National Lionfish Management Program. Mr. Alleyne was also trained and participated in monitoring of the beach profiles and water quality for physical and biological parameters along the Beauséjour River which empties directly into the MBMPA and coastal water within and adjacent to the MPA.