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Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety

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## **“Strengthening Management Capacity at the South Coast Marine Conservation Area (SCMCA) and the Tobago Cays Marine Park (TCMP) in St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG)”**

### *CaMPAM-ECMMAN Project*

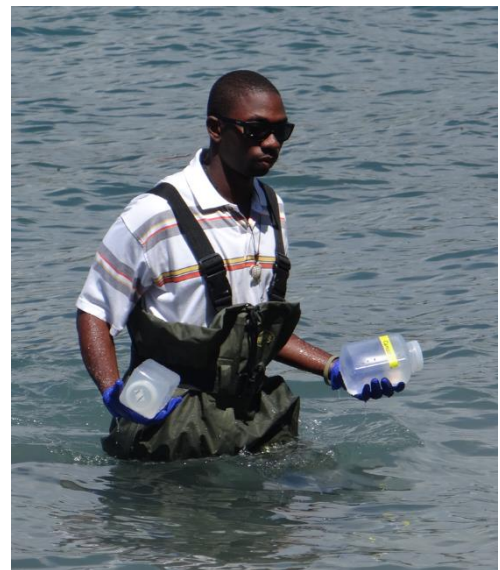
### *First Year Summary of Achievements*

The overarching goal of this project has been to build local management capacity at the South Coast Marine Conservation Area (SCMCA) and the Tobago Cays Marine Park (TCMP) in St. Vincent and the Grenadines through strategic actions which will suitably inform and empower local authorities to protect both living and non-living marine resources.

Further, the project will allow for the re-assessment of MPA gaps in fulfillment of the 20% CCI target for St. Vincent. The project represents an opportunity to build on contributions from previously implemented or ongoing projects in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

### **Water Quality Monitoring and Evaluation Capacity Building:**

Capacity building efforts began in February 2014 with a week-long workshop and participatory needs assessment in St. Vincent, followed by an on-site assessment and participatory needs assessment on Union Island. In St. Vincent, representatives of the NOAA Coral Disease and Health Consortium guided public sector stakeholders of the SCMCA through the theory and practice of water quality monitoring, and facilitated a process of deliberation which resulted in a multi-faceted gap analysis of capacity and cost effectiveness for local water quality monitoring. Baseline assessments of physical and bacterial water quality characteristics were conducted, and measures were taken to furnish the management authorities of each MPA with the necessary equipment to conduct monitoring using both ECMMAN and match funding.



**Human Resource Capacity Building:** Ms. Orisha Joseph of Sustainable Grenadines Inc. and Mr. Reshevski Jack of the SVG Fisheries Division attended the CaMPAM Training of Trainers in Grenada in February 2015. They were selected by both the project leading organization and the collaborating organization. IUCN

BIOPAMA covered part of the costs of the participants nominated by the CaMPAM-ECMMAN projects, including accommodation, breakfast, lunch and ground transportation.

**SCUBA Capacity Building:** Two staff members of the SVG Fisheries Division have been certified in PADI Open Water SCUBA as the first steps to achieving the vision of independent capacity for marine biophysical monitoring in St. Vincent. Three more staff members from Fisheries Division and three rangers from the Tobago Cays Marine Park will also be trained in the coming months.

**Enforcement Capacity Building:** The National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority and veteran United States enforcement officer Jayson Horadam of MPA Enforcement International met with stakeholders from the civil society and law enforcement representatives on mainland St. Vincent to discuss the future enforcement needs of the SCMPA. On Union Island, Mr. Horadam began a five day workshop for TCMP,



intended to train the rangers in best practices for effectively enforcing the rules and regulations of their Marine Protected Areas. The workshop was also attended by marine park rangers from mainland St. Vincent, Carriacou and Grenada, the St. Vincent Coast Guard and representatives of the Royal St. Vincent and the Grenadines Police Force, resulting in a number of constructive dialogues between enforcement agencies. At the end of the workshop, the rangers had been exposed to sessions on interacting with the public, detecting violations, proper report writing, surveillance techniques, vessel boarding and search, safety at sea, evidence collection and case package preparation. The rangers undertook field exercises and simulations daily, progressively incorporating the subject matter.

**TCMP Designation as a SPAW Protocol Site:** The application for the TCMP to be listed as a SPAW site was submitted on time and was approved. The SPAW focal point for St. Vincent received the certificate of approval in December 2014 at the Meeting of SPAW Contracting Parties.

For further information, feel free to contact:

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*This project is part of the International Climate Initiative (ICI). The German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) supports this initiative on the basis of a decision adopted by the German Bundestag.*