



## 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)

SusGren is working along with National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority to coordinate, Tobago Cays Marine Park and other key stakeholders to coordinate a project funded by a CaMPAM-ECMMAN small grant (€155,950) awarded by the UNEP-CEP through its SPAW-RAC.

It is part of the larger regional project “Climate Resilient Eastern Caribbean Marine Managed Areas Network (ECMMAN)” coordinated by The Nature Conservancy with funding from by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB).

The project is entitled “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)”, to be implemented on January 2015-June 2016.

It will directly help to protect biological resources and their habitats within the two focal MPA's through the implementation of a comprehensive water quality monitoring program, improvements to the enforcement capabilities of rangers and a targeted enforcement related to public awareness and education. In addition, MMA staff will be trained to acquire the skills to effectively manage the marine protected areas. In addition, the re-assessment of MPA gaps will be conducted to assist government towards reaching their commitment with the Caribbean Challenge Initiative.

The project represents an opportunity to build on contributions from previously implemented or ongoing projects in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, including “Strengthening Reef Management on the Grenada Bank” that includes the Grenadines Network of MPA's of which SCMCA and TCM are a part of. The long term goal is to have a resilient network of MPAs that are co-managed effectively by community and government, that function effectively for community well-being, biodiversity protection and as a critical climate change response mechanism.

Other key partner is the government of St. Vincent through the Fisheries Division. Other stakeholders include Tourism, Maritime Administration, Environment Department, Bureau of Standards, Central Water and Sewerage Authority, Forestry Department, Physical Planning Unit, and the Coast Guard Services.

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