



# Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife

## Protocol And Programme

Newsletter N°21 - February 2018

### Commonly used Acronyms

**BEST:** Voluntary scheme for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Territories of European overseas

**CaMPAM:** Caribbean Marine Protected Area Management Network and Forum

**CEP:** Caribbean Environment Programme

**ECMMAN:** Climate Resilient Eastern Caribbean Marine Managed Areas Network

**GCFI:** Gulf Caribbean Fisheries Institute

**GCRMN:** Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network

**MPAs:** Marine Protected Areas

**PAs:** Protected Areas

**SPAW:** Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife

**SPAW-RAC:** Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife - Regional Activity Center

**UN Environment-CEP:** United Nations Environment Programme - Caribbean Environment Programme



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## News of the month

### Happy International Year of the Reef 2018!

The **IYOR official** website was recently launched by the International Coral Reef Initiative, to support the [Third International Year of the Reef](#).

"The new site will ensure that IYOR2018 accomplishes its goals, by strengthening awareness of the value of coral reefs and the threats to these precious ecosystems. IYOR2018 is made possible through the combined efforts of "focal points" across the globe. These are **governments, intergovernmental organizations,**

**academic institutions, and civil society organizations** that will be coordinating activities under the IYOR2018 banner to preserve our coral reefs. The new website will be a central **clearinghouse** for these activities."

We encourage you to **associate your coral reef related initiatives to the ICRI label IYOR**, which will increase your project's visibility. You can **submit your initiatives online**.

## Projects

### The 2017 BEST 2.0 Small Grant Call for Proposals is over: 4 successful projects for the Caribbean Region

Following the selection of 10 Concept Notes as part of the 2017 Small Grant Call for Proposals, a two-day capacity building workshop was organised in Saint Martin for all pre-selected applicants between 15-16 June 2017. The workshop aimed at providing further guidance and support during the preparation of the full proposal, and help the pre-selected applicants strengthen their applications. Overall, nine (9) persons from seven (7) different Caribbean territories attended the event.

The deadline for the full proposal submission on the BEST 2.0 portal was 21 July 2017. The applications

were subject to a technical review by three (3) independent Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) experts during the summer. On 11 September 2017, a RAC meeting was convened to discuss the projects' evaluation grids and agree on a final ranking for the ten (10) pre-selected Full Proposals.

*The BEST 2.0 funding programme is financed by the EC Development Cooperation Instrument to set up a funding facility for small-scale field actions in the OCTs that targets activities linked with*

- 1) conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems,
- 2) sustainable use of ecosystem services and natural resources,
- 3) ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation.



In late September, the European Commission held a meeting to validate the results received from the various regional hubs and to designate the successful projects. A total of sixteen (16) projects were selected worldwide including four (4) projects in the Caribbean region. These commenced in January 2018 with implementation expected over the course of the year. More information on the awarded projects and their factsheets can be downloaded [here](#).

### Creation of a new Coral Restoration Consortium

We are pleased to announce the creation of a new Coral Restoration Consortium (CRC). The development of a consortium emerged as a priority recommendation from the November 2016 "Workshop to Advance the Science and Practice of Caribbean Coral Restoration." The CRC is a community of practice comprised of scientists, managers, coral restoration practitioners, and educators dedicated to enabling coral reef ecosystems to adapt and survive the 21st century and beyond. The CRC's mission is to foster collaboration and technology transfer among participants, and to facilitate scientific and practical ingenuity to demonstrate that restoration can achieve meaningful results, at scales relevant to reefs in their roles of protecting coastlines, supporting fisheries, and serving as economic engines for coastal communities.

The CRC has been established with full recognition that saving the world's coral reefs will be difficult and requires a multi-pronged approach. Immediate and aggressive action on climate change is paramount for the long-term survival of reefs - however, carbon already accumulated in the atmosphere will continue to warm ocean waters to a level inhospitable to corals for decades to come. Thus, it is recognized that the problem needs to be addressed simultaneously and at multiple levels.

This active and targeted approach using novel ecological interventions is one way we can buy tropical reefs time to adapt to changing ocean conditions so that they may thrive in the future.

- ▶ Globally - aggressive action is required to reverse climate change.
- ▶ Regionally - integrated networks of protected reef ecosystems are needed to ensure that corals can survive and adapt.
- ▶ Locally - as threats such as overfishing and pollution are managed, efforts are needed to repopulate target reefs with resilient, genetically diverse, and reproductively viable corals.

To help increase the scale and efficiency of coral restoration, the CRC will be focusing on the following topical priorities for the next three (3) to five (5) years (for each priority, a dedicated Working Group is being formed to develop solutions-oriented action plans and to help establish best management practices).

#### The priorities include:

- Scaling-up in-water, land-based, and larval propagation
- Designing projects to demonstrate multi-species ecosystem functioning and coastal protection
- Coordinating and fostering genetics science into adaptive restoration
- Developing restoration monitoring guidelines and common-access data platforms

The CRC will focus initial efforts on Caribbean coral restoration, but we invite participation from scientists, managers, and practitioners working in other regions to help expand knowledge and collaboration. If successful in the Caribbean and resources permit, we look forward to helping spread restoration efforts globally.

**To get involved with the CRC and receive e-mail updates on the CRC's development, newsletters with scholarly information on restoration, quarterly webinar announcements, and information on how to join Working Groups [click here](#).**

For general inquires on the CRC please email

[coral.restoration@noaa.gov](mailto:coral.restoration@noaa.gov) or contact the coordinator, Tali Vardi (NOAA), or the co-chairs, Scott Winters (Coral Restoration Foundation) or Tom Moore (NOAA).

#### Extras/Reminders

- ▶ Check out the [CRC website](#) - soon to feature an expanded "Reef Restoration Toolkit."
- ▶ Watch [restoration webinars](#)
- ▶ Watch the ground-breaking film [Chasing Coral](#) streaming on [Netflix](#)

#### Special thanks from the inaugural Coral Restoration Consortium steering committee:

- Scott Winters, Coral Restoration Foundation (Co-Chair)
- Tom Moore, NOAA Restoration Center (Co-Chair)
- Tali Vardi, NOAA Fisheries Office of Science and Technology (Coordinator)
- Luis Solorzano, The Nature Conservancy
- Dirk Peterson, SECORE International
- Diego Lirman, University of Miami
- Ilsa Kuffner, U.S. Geological Survey
- Les Kaufman, Boston University
- Monica Borobia and Lucie Labbouz, UN Environment-Caribbean Environment Programme
- Dave Vaughan, Mote Marine Laboratories
- Phanor Montoya, Corales de Paz
- Anastazia Banazak, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
- Andrew Ross, Seascape Caribbean
- Gabriela Nava, Oceanus AC

### Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network for the Caribbean trained 16 participants in Coral Reef and Human Dimensions Monitoring during Workshop in Jamaica



Workshop participants in Jamaica.

The Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN)-Caribbean organized a regional training workshop entitled "GCRMN-Caribbean Capacity Building for Coral Reef and Human Dimensions Monitoring within the Wider Caribbean". The workshop took place at the Port Royal Marine Laboratory, The University of West Indies (UWI), Jamaica, from 10 - 14 October 2017. The event was opened by 1) Christopher Corbin, Programme Officer at the UN Environment Cartagena Convention Secretariat (Kingston, Jamaica); 2) Suzanne Palmer, Academic Coordinator (Port Royal Marine Laboratory/UWI); and 3) Marcia Creary Ford, Environmental Data Manager at the Centre for Marine Sciences (CMS, UWI).

The workshop was organized within the framework of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPA) to the Cartagena Convention with the support of the Regional Activity Centre for this Protocol (SPA-W-RAC), based in Guadeloupe, and in partnership with the University of the West Indies, Mona, and the National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA), Jamaica. Partial sponsorship was generously provided by The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

(NFWF), USA.

The aim of the Workshop was to build capacity for improving coral reef monitoring as well as regional cooperation and information sharing across the region. The training was divided into two (2) main components reflecting - 1) the current status and future trends for coral reefs in the Caribbean; and 2) the social and economic value of coral reefs to improve their future management, and decisions on the use of coastal areas. Throughout the week, the trainers stressed the importance of the two (2) components of the workshop towards achieving effective integrated monitoring of coral reefs in the Caribbean.

Fourteen (14) participants from Jamaica (including NEPA, CMS and the Port Royal Marine Laboratory) attended this workshop. Two (2) Cuban participants from the Cuban National Center of Protected Areas (CNAP) were also invited to join - one (1) participant received partial funding from CERMES for participation in the workshop.

- Participants in the **biophysical** component of the workshop were highly experienced in coral reef monitoring, and after a brief review of the GCRMN-Caribbean methodology and a reconnaissance dive, they were able to immediately conduct a complete site assessment of the Palisadoes Port Royal Protected Area (P-PRPA) reefs.

- The benthic, fish, invertebrate, coral recruits, and water quality data were collected from nine (9) sites within the Port Royal Cays. This data was then sorted and compiled into excel data sheets for subsequent analysis.

- The participants of the second component of the workshop were introduced to the global initiative for establishing site level socio-economic coastal and marine monitoring programmes known as **Socio-economic Monitoring for Coastal Management (SocMon)**. SocMon is a regionally adapted, practical methodology for socio-economic monitoring for coastal management.

- During this training component, the Jamaican participants worked on developing a socio-economic assessment to promote the sustainable use of the natural resources in the P-PRPA by increasing public awareness about, and participation in, management of the protected area. As part of a Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded project, CNAP was interested in applying the SocMon methodology to the development of sustainable economic activities for the Cocodrillo community in Isla de la Juventud, Cuba.

During the week, participants developed draft socio-economic site monitoring plans for their sites of interest and shared experiences and materials from their own countries. The SocMon teams are expected to refine and finalize the draft site monitoring plans for initiation of socio-economic monitoring post-workshop.

As a follow-up to the workshop, a NFWF small grant of approximately USD 3,000 (allocated between biophysical and socio-economic monitoring activities based on capacity and resource needs) will be awarded to the project partner in Jamaica to support analysis of biophysical data (including photo images) and a socio-economic assessment at the P-PRPA. This will result in the first complete integrated coral reef and human dimensions assessment carried out at a GCRMN-Caribbean site. These efforts are part of the GCRMN-Caribbean monitoring plan aimed at promoting sustained and standardized monitoring at regional sites for reliable assessment and reporting.

Another similar workshop was scheduled to take place at the end of September 2017 in Saint Martin. Unfortunately, due to the passage of Hurricane Irma the workshop was postponed. The event was anticipated to enhance the training of at least fifteen (15) participants from Saint Martin, Sint Marteen, Saba, Sint Eustatius, and Saint Barthélemy.

We send our thoughts to all the participants, as well as their families, and wish them a prompt recovery. The team looks forward to rescheduling the planned workshop and will provide a new date very

soon.

For more information on the event and GCRMN-Caribbean, please visit the SPAW-RAC website or contact: [Lucie Labbouz](#); [Sophie Mjati](#) or [Maria Pena](#)

## Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria impacts over the Caribbean region

On two (2) occasions in September 2017, and over several days each time, hurricanes Irma and Maria ground through the Eastern Caribbean region as category 5 storms with powerful sustained winds and heavy rain, causing widespread damage and devastation.

The impacts suffered varied across the islands however, the Overseas Territories were most affected as the eye of the hurricanes passed directly over these areas or very close inshore.

Buildings, infrastructure, and natural habitats such as forests or coral reefs received some level of damage and sadly, in some cases, were completely destroyed. Up to 50 persons died in the region and the fury from these hurricanes left thousands homeless.

Several projects coordinated by the SPAW-RAC and funded by various donors (e.g. UN Environment-CEP, EU BEST 2.0 programme, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation) have also been directly impacted. Once relevant partners were able to confirm their safety and had made some recovery from these devastating events, projects were able restart following some stocktaking, and slowly implement the much-needed recovery actions.

In total ten (10) of the sixteen (16) BEST 2.0 projects currently implemented in the EU OCTs were impacted. The impacts of the hurricanes have been discussed on a case-by-case basis - while some projects will request an extension or an amendment in timeline or budget in order to adjust outcomes under the new conditions, others must unfortunately terminate as they no longer have the capacity to undertake their activities and complete the project.

Another similar GCRMN-Caribbean workshop convened by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), was scheduled for September 2017 in Saint Martin (with participants from Saint Martin, Sint Maarten, Saba, Saint Eustatius, Saint Barthélemy). Given the passage of the hurricanes, the NFWF kindly accepted a time extension for the grant and this workshop was postponed (new date to be announced).

Following the aftermath from these storms which resulted in major impacts on the local economy, the territories are facing new challenges - efforts are now focused on rebuilding infrastructure and restoring the tourism sector. It is evident that developing a specific ecosystem conservation strategy, or increasing budget allocation for environmental management and response will need to be a priority for governments.

***The question as to whether the strength of these hurricanes and their likely re-occurrence in the coming years is linked to climate change must be raised.***

The Caribbean region must now adapt and become resilient to such devastating natural disasters. In the midst of these “**superstorms**”, the moment is opportune to discuss global warming in a meaningful way and explore climate change mitigation – indeed this will become the new normal and is the most important challenge the world will face!

### A new project coordinator at SPAW-RAC!



MJATI Sophie

Sophie Mjati is a French jurist specialized in international environmental law. She previously worked for UNESCO, where she was involved in the communication campaigns around education for sustainable development. In 2015, Sophie was part of the WWF Colombia. She dedicated herself to the elaboration of practical and legal advices for Native Communities confronted with the establishment of mining companies in their lands. She also studied the mechanism of inclusion of the civil society within the elaboration of the Colombian INDC, before COP 21. She assists the SPAW-RAC team on the implementation of some of the SPAW workplan activities, especially on Coral reefs and will also be strongly involved in the next STAC and COP preparation.

### 70th Annual Conference of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute



The 70th Annual Conference of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI) took place from 6 to 10 November 2017, in Merida, Mexico. The week provided an opportunity for fruitful discussions on several matters concerning coral reef conservation and monitoring worldwide.

Multi-disciplinary technical sessions focused on several key themes, including one on marine protected areas (MPAs) science and management coordinated for the 13th time by the United Nations Environment Programme in the Caribbean (UN Environment-CEP) as [CaMPAM](#) forum for information exchange. It was moderated by Dr. Georgina Bustamante (CaMPAM coordinator) and Dr. Martha Prada (member of CaMPAM Expert Group).



BUSTAMANTE Georgina, PRADA Martha.

- The UN Environment-CEP awarded travel support to several presenters. Eleven (11) papers were selected out of eighteen (18) abstracts submitted. The papers addressed topics such as the biophysical and socioeconomic features of MPAs; management tools such as tourism regulations and fishermen involvement; the impact of management on ecosystems services and community livelihoods (specifically in Cuba, Grenada, Guatemala, Mexico and Colombia); and other papers on national and regional issues.

A number of the presenters were graduates of the CaMPAM [Training of trainers program on MPA Management](#), which served as a demonstration of the CaMPAM approach of combining training and networking with financial and technical assistance. You can find the abstracts of the conference at [www.GCFI.org](http://www.GCFI.org).

- Two (2) posters were presented by Dr. Bustamante and other coauthors - 1) **Combining grant awards with technical assistance and training to enhance the capacity of marine protected areas in the Caribbean: the case of the CaMPAM-ECMMAN Small Grant Program**; and 2) **A transatlantic initiative supports exchanges among regional networks of marine protected managers around the world and CaMPAM is at the forefront.**

- A special session on innovative technologies and tools to support implementation of Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM), and the **"Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries"** (EAF) in the CLME+ region was also held as a side event to the conference.

- SPAW-RAC showcased the work of the GCRMN-Caribbean in 2016, with a presentation of a poster entitled **"Improving Long-term Coral Reef Monitoring in the Wider Caribbean region: GCRMN-Caribbean Accomplishments"** to GCFI participants.



- A one (1) day special workshop, organized jointly by [the Sustainable Management of Shared Living Marine Resources in the Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems project \(CLME+\)](#), the [Biodiversity for Sustainable Development in the Caribbean through Ecosystem Based Management \(EBM-DSS\) from UN Environment-CEP](#), the [Blue Halo Initiative from the Waitt Institute](#), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) took place as a concurrent session.

The workshop was attended by over fifty (50) participants across the Caribbean region including project partners, government representatives, experts and non-governmental organizations. They took the opportunity to share information on the multiple EBM initiatives in progress across the region and discussed plans for future coordination. The final workshop report will be distributed soon through the "TEAMWORK" platform.

### French American Climate Talks on Ocean (FACT-O): Workshop on Sargassum



Sargassum workshop participants.

The SPAW-RAC/UN Environment-CEP was invited to take part in a workshop on Sargassum which was held 18 -19 January 2018 in Galveston, Texas.

In order to share insights and approaches concerning the multiple issues of Sargassum, and to encourage the coordination of French-American scientific [collaborations](#), the [Office for Science & Technology of the Embassy of France in the United States](#), in partnership with the [French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development \(Institut de Recherche pour le Développement - IRD\)](#) and [Texas A&M University in Galveston \(TAMUG\)](#), assembled a number of experts (*marine biologists, oceanographers, algologists, physicists, satellite imaging, data and remote sensing scientists*) from prominent research institutions in France and the United States (including other representatives of national agencies and international institutions). Over a period of two (2) days the group shared expertise, developed mutual awareness, and fostered French-American collaborative research in this field.

CEP commends the initiative which will contribute to strengthening cooperation within the wider Caribbean Region to deal with the massive landings of Sargassum over the past few years, and its raised economic and ecological concerns (*collaboration extending also across the Atlantic with the [Abidjan Convention](#) which was also represented*).

### Successful convening of the Regional Workshop on Ecosystem-based Management and the Application of Decision Support Systems in the Wider Caribbean Region



EBM workshop participants.

[UN Environment-CEP \(Secretariat to the Cartagena Convention\) coordinated this regional workshop that took place on the 4-6 December 2017, in Panama City, Panama.](#) The workshop included forty-seven (47) participants, consisting of fourteen (14) member countries, project partners, regional organizations, and experts.

The Secretariat and the SPAW Protocol aim to promote and integrate the principles of an ecosystem-based management (EBM) approach, moving beyond the business-as-usual, sectoral management.

The practical application of EBM is still a challenging task, while availing innovative operational protocols and software tools needed to establish EBM Decision Support System (EBM-DSS) applications. These concepts need to be further disseminated across the Wider Caribbean. The Project "[Biodiversity for Sustainable Development in the Caribbean through Ecosystem Based Management \(EBM-DSS\)](#)" currently being implemented by UN Environment-CEP under SPAW, is promoting the application of EBM by pilot-testing a DSS methodology in the Dominican Republic, with the support of the Government of Italy, [Agenzia Italiana per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo \(AICS\)](#).

#### The objectives of the workshop were to:

- Provide basic training on the use of EBM methods and tools through the simulation of applying a decision support system (DSS).
- Illustrate and gain feedback on the role of Regional EBM Network Nodes; and
- Explore opportunities to further expand efforts in the region for potential partnerships and developing EBM-DSS applications.

Two (2) Regional EBM-DSS Network Nodes are being established ([INVEMAR, Colombia](#) and [CERMES-UWI Barbados](#)) which will provide technical guidance on how to use such a DSS application and associated software to implement EBM projects in the Wider Caribbean.

Results included a Working Group established under SPAW, and a platform for further communication and work which is being established using "TEAMWORK" (to be managed by SPAW).

### 32nd International Coral Reef Initiative General Meeting



ICRI General Meeting.

UN Environment-CEP through the SPAW-RAC participated in the **32nd International Coral Reef Initiative General Meeting (ICRI GM32)**, which took place between 7- 9 December 2017 in Nairobi, Kenya. Through support from France, Sweden and UN Environment, delegates from several countries and organisations were able to attend and participate in the meeting.

In total, more than seventy (70) delegates from twenty (20) ICRI member countries and organisations attended the meeting.

You will find attached the **Summary record**, which includes information on **GCRMN coordination**, as well as **regional reports of the different regional nodes of GCRMN** (Western Indian Ocean, Pacific, East-Asia and Caribbean).

The work achieved in the Caribbean on coral reefs was highlighted, and presentations were made on the GCRMN-Caribbean and on the Coral Restoration Consortium.

#### The following were adopted at the meeting:

- "**Recommendation for supporting investments in the natural infrastructure of reefs and mangroves to increase climate resilience**"
- "**Recommendation to reduce damage due to dredging and dumping on coral reefs**" *Terms of reference for the ad hoc committee on Green Marine Construction*

For more information, kindly refer to the Summary Record and presentations and associated documents on the [ICRI website](#).

### Blue Finance project in the Caribbean

[Blue finance](#) (Bf) is a collaborative project initiated by Blue Finance Economics for Coral Reef Ecosystems (ECRE), an NGO whose primary focus is the development of economic instruments for marine biodiversity.

- The BF project is developing Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) for the management of marine protected areas in six (6) Caribbean islands and exploring three (3) new, non-regional sites.
- Impact investors have confirmed their support for the Caribbean's Blue Finance PPPs
- Training also underway for Caribbean practitioners in a new method to calculate compensation for impacts on marine ecosystems.

BF is supported by the [United Nations Environment Programme \(UN Environment\)](#) through the Global Coral Reef Partnership of UN Environment and the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans. BF is implemented by the SPAW-RAC for the Caribbean Environmental Programme.

Primary partners include Conservation Capital, Althelia-Mirova,

Deloitte and Ropes & Gray lawyers as well as GRID ARENDAL.

The primary objective of BF is to achieve environmental, social and financial returns through strengthened collaboration with the private sector in marine management and conservation in coral reef areas. Specifically, Bf seeks to provide a diversified portfolio of impact investments in PPPs for the management of marine protected areas.

Each PPP will contribute to [SDGs 14, 1, 8 and 13](#) and offer attractive Internal Rates of Returns (IRR) to impact investors.

## SPAW PAs / CaMPAM Activities

### End of the ECMMAN Project (Climate Resilient Eastern Caribbean Marine Managed Areas Network)



ECMMAN map.

Since 2014, the [ECMMAN project](#) supported marine managed areas with funding, research, training and communication tools for protecting the marine ecosystems for the benefit of the coastal communities in six (6) Eastern Caribbean islands.



ECMMAN and education

In particular, the CaMPAM-ECMMAN Small Grant Program was coordinated by the SPAW-RAC thanks to an agreement with The Nature Conservancy, with funding from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB), and the additional contribution of the Government of France.

The six (6) grants aimed to support projects for building marine area management capacity in the OECS countries.

The projects ended in March 2017, and the program report to The Nature Conservancy was submitted in June, 2017.

Each project received approximately €170,000 plus technical assistance from CaMPAM. Among the beneficiaries were the St. Lucia National Trust, the Nevis Historical and Conservation Society and the St Kitts and Nevis



ECMMAN and education

Department of Marine Resources, the Sustainable Grenadines Inc. and the St. Vincent and the Grenadines [National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority](#), the [Tantán development Corporation](#) in Dominica, the Grenada Marine Protected Area National Team, and the Antigua Fisheries Division, as well as other associated local government and non-government agencies.

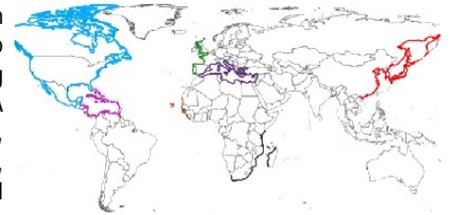
For more information, go to [CaMPAM-ECMMAN Small Grant Program](#).

#### Outcomes included

- the development of new or improved MPA management plans
- better educated community groups (including school children, fishers and farmers) and MPA staff on subjects ranging from First Aid, MPA management, mooring buoy installation, and fishing methods
- marine habitat description, trails, offices and other park facilities built or improved management teams with better staff
- manuals and training on enforcement developed and used
- water quality and habitats monitoring programs started, equipment purchased, etc.

### CaMPAM partners with other regional networks of MPA managers

CaMPAM along with SPAW-RAC contributed to exchanges among regional networks of MPA managers in various ways, including the design, coordination and participation in the



following workshops, conference sessions and side events:

- Blue Initiative (Monaco, April 2017)
- UN Ocean Forum (New York, June 2017)
- "Cooperation and common strategy between networks of MPA managers in the Atlantic region - Twinning project (Tenerife, Spain, July 2017)
- MPA coastal resilience: coping with rapid changes" (Gabon, July, 2017)
- IMPAC4 (Chile, September 2017)

During these missions CaMPAM was represented by the coordinator and members of its Expert Team.

These activities were supported by the project "**Transatlantic MPA Network: Towards a Transatlantic Partnership of Marine Protected Areas**", part of the

"**Cooperation with Northern and Southern Transatlantic Dimension**". This is an initiative of the European Union aimed at promoting cooperation among MPA managers of



Workshop participants.

countries and territories around the Atlantic Ocean, and sharing of marine area best management practices in Europe, Africa, the Caribbean and North America - it is based on the recognition of the



“*enormous value in exchanging experiences beyond a single region: the identification of commonalities and differences in various biophysical and cultural scenarios is known to stimulate solutions to our own problems*”.

## The SPAW-RAC represented UNEP-CEP and made presentations in the following events :

- March: Franco-Colombia coopération Year, Colombia
- May: 36th Congress of Natural Reserves of France, Martinique
- June: Ocean Conference, New-York
- July :Transatlantic MMPAs Network, Tenerife
- September: IMPACT 4, Chili
- October: Transatlantic Marine Mammals Network, Iceland
- November: Antilles-Guiana Cooperation Conference, Guadeloupe
- November: Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) – Sharks MOU, Bonaire
- Januray: Sargassum workshop, New-York
- Janury: Final meeting of transatlantic project, Brussels

## Training of trainers Programme on MPA Management

CaMPAM recently announced the 13th edition of the program for English, French and Dutch speaking Caribbean countries. The regional course will take place on 16-26 April 2018 in Barbados, and is being coordinated in partnership with [UWI-CERMES](#) and [IUCN ORMACC](#) BIOPAMA. Numerous applications have been received and the selected participants will be informed in February.

## Publications

- Bustamante, G., A. Vanzella, R. Glazer and L. Collado-Vides. 2018. The evolution of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Management Network and Forum (CaMPAM): 20 years of the regional, multidimensional program for strengthening MPA practitioners. Gulf and Caribbean Research 29:GCF11-9 (<https://aquila.usm.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1525&context=gcr>)

## Recent / Upcoming Events

- Workshop on the implementation and Monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Caribbean, 17-19 January, Saint Vincent and The Grenadines
- CLME+ Strategic Action Plan Monitoring & Evaluation Framework Workshop, 30-31 January, Colombia
- Workshop on the “State of the Marine Environment and associated

Economies” (“CLME+ SOMEE”) reporting mechanism, 1-2 February, Colombia

- 2018 WIDECAST meeting, 18-21 March, Trinidad
- CaMPAM regional course on MPA management, April 16-26, Barbados

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