

International Climate Initiative 2017

Project proposal

to the

**Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear
Safety (BMU)**

Wise Use of Caribbean Wetlands for Climate Change Mitigation and
Conservation of their Ecosystem Services.

submitted by

IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
(hereafter "IUCN"),
represented by

its Acting Director General

for the benefit of the

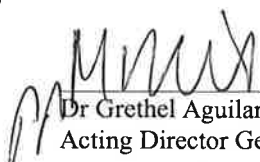
Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl
Habitat (hereafter "the Ramsar Convention"), represented by its Secretary
General


Please enclose the following attachments:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Annex 1: Implementing partner(s)/Subcontractor(s)/Political partner(s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Annex 2: Gantt chart on the project schedule
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Annex 3: Expenditure and financing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Annex 4: Application of GCF Standards under the International Climate Initiative

Gland, 7 October 2019

Place, date


 Dr Grethel Aguilar
 Acting Director General of IUCN


 Ms Martha Rojas Urrego
 Secretary General of the Ramsar Convention
 (for the project coordination and implementation)

1 Project master data

1.1 Project	Project number	19_IV_091_Caribbean_M_Caribbean Coastal Wetlands
	Project title	Wise Use of Caribbean Wetlands for Climate Change Mitigation and Conservation of their Ecosystem Services
	Country/countries of implementation	Antigua and Barbuda, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Belize, Grenada, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Suriname
	Project duration	10.2019 - 09.2023
	This table is an integrated excel-object – Double click to enter funding information.	

	2018:	0.00 €
	2019	285,048.00 €
	2020	1,004,397.00 €
	2021	821,696.00 €
	2022	920,903.00 €
	2023	739,825.00 €
	Subtotal:	3,771,869.00 €
	Total funding volume:	3,837,648.00 €
	Partner funding:	3,108,000.00 €

1.2 Submitter	Name	IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
	Department	
	Street, No.	Rue Mauverney 28
	Postal Code, town/city	1196, Gland
	Country	Switzerland
	Contact Person	Main contact point: Ramsar Secretariat- Ms. Maria Rivera Co-contact point (for information purposes): IUCN- Mr. Patrick Reybet-Degat
	Telephone	+41 22 999 0175 (Ramsar) +41 22 999 0211 (IUCN)
	Telefax	+41 22 000 0169

	<p>Email rivera@ramsar.org patrick.reybet-degat@iucn.org</p> <p>Website www.iucn.org / www.ramsar.org (for the project)</p> <p>Institution International Organisation</p> <p>Legal structure</p> <p>Non-profit status x <input type="checkbox"/> yes no</p> <p>Total staff 1009 of which 22 are assigned for Ramsar</p> <p>Staff for the project 11, of which 4 are Ramsar's Secretariat staff and 7 will be hired for the project</p> <p>Year established 1948 (IUCN) / 1990 Ramsar Convention Secretariat</p> <p>Turnover [EUR/year] 110'000'000 (IUCN) / 5,750,000 (Ramsar)</p> <p>Experience in the target region [years] IUCN 16 , Ramsar 20</p> <p>Experience in activities relevant to the project [years] 20</p> <p><u>Role/function of submitter in the project proposed</u> In acts that require legal personality, the Secretariat of the Convention is legally represented by IUCN. This was decided by resolution of the Parties to the Ramsar Convention and was accepted by IUCN. Therefore, IUCN is now re-submitting the project for the benefit of the Convention.</p> <p>The Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention will be responsible for the project coordination and implementation in accordance with IUCN guidelines and processes as adapted to Ramsar with the relevant units of IUCN.</p>
<p>1.3 Partner institutions for embedding the project in the country of implementation / in the target region¹</p>	<p>Antigua and Barbuda, Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Marine Resources & Agro Industry Mr. Philmore James, Ramsar Convention Focal Point. fisheriesantigua@gmail.com Role: Ensure the successful implementation of the project in Antigua and Barbuda</p> <p>Belize, Ministry of Forestry Fisheries and Sustainable Development Mr. Wilber Sabido, Ramsar Focal Point cfo@forest.gov.bz Role: Ensure the successful implementation of the project in Belize</p> <p>Cuba, Ministry of Science, Technology and the Environment Mr. Enrique Moret, Ramsar Focal Point emoret@citma.gob.cu Pedro Ruiz, Ramsar daily contact pruiz@citma.gob.cu Role: Ensure the successful implementation of the project in Cuba</p> <p>Dominican Republic, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Mr. José Manuel Mateo Felíz, Ramsar Focal Point jose.mateo@ambiente.gob.do Role: Ensure the successful implementation of the project in the Dominican Republic</p> <p>Grenada, Ministry of Agriculture Lands, Forestry, Fisheries and Environment Mr. Gordon Paterson, Ramsar Focal Point massaiman2004@yahoo.com</p>

¹ Please complete the master data for all political partners in annex 1
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	<p>Role: Ensure the successful implementation of the project in Grenada</p> <p>Jamaica, National Environment Planning Agency Antohony Mckenzie, Ramsar Focal Point AMcKenzie@nepa.gov.jm Ms. Monique Curtis, Ramsar daily contact monique.curtis@nepa.gov.jm</p> <p>Role: Ensure the successful implementation of the project in Jamaica</p> <p>Saint Lucia. Ministry of Sustainable Development, Energy Science and Technology Rebecka Rock, Ramsar Focal Point rebecca.rock@govt.lc</p> <p>Role: Ensure the successful implementation of the project in Saint Lucia</p> <p>Suriname, Suriname Forest Service Ms. Claudine Sakimin, Ramsar Focal Point claudinesakimin@yahoo.com</p> <p>Role: Ensure the successful implementation of the project in Suriname</p>
<p>1.4 Implementing partners and subcontractors ²</p>	<p>IHE-Delft Institute for Water Education in the Netherlands, Charles Sturt University in Australia and the Panama Regional Center for Training and Capacity Building in the Western Hemisphere, have been chosen as subcontractors taking in consideration the specific and qualified knowledge that is required for the project in areas of wetlands-climate change and capacity building. The above three organizations have extensive experience in these particular areas and therefore will be able to provide the service/work that are required for the implementation of the project.</p> <p>Below is the description of the role of the three organizations in the project:</p> <p>IHE-Delft Institute for Water Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <input type="checkbox"/> Implementing partner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subcontractor • <u>Capabilities and experiences relevant to the project</u> <p>IHE-Delft Institute for Water Education has extensive experience in wetlands and freshwater and coastal ecology, ecosystem services and capacity development for water and wetland management. Dr. Van Dam will participate in the project as the wetlands expert from IHE-Delft, providing capacity development needs assessment, designing a capacity development program and implementing training courses for the partner institutions. IHE-Delft was involved in recent capacity development programmes in the Caribbean: Supporting SIDS to strengthen capacity in the water sector to cope with climate change, participants from 14 Caribbean countries (2015-2018); module 'Sustainable Coastal Management', St Eustatius, 22 participants from 14 Caribbean countries (2016); and Training programme for Improving Municipal Wastewater Management in Coastal Cities, 9 courses in 8 Caribbean countries (2006-2009).</p> <p>Dr. Van Dam has 30 years of research and training experience in environmental systems analysis, wetland ecosystem services and management in long-term and short-term assignments in Asia, Africa and Latin America, including in Costa Rica and Mexico. He is fluent in all official languages of the partner countries (English, Spanish, Dutch) and has represented his institute as an official observer at the Ramsar STRP since 2009. He is a lead author on the first Global Wetlands Outlook report which will be published by the Ramsar Convention in 2018.</p>

² Please complete the master data for all implementing partners and subcontractors in annex 1. The difference between implementing partners and subcontractors is explained in the 'Guidelines for international IKI applicants'.

- Function/role in the project proposed
Support the capacity development component by providing inputs and expertise to the development and implementation of the capacity development programme. Participation in regional workshops related to work package IV. Dr. Van Damme will also participate as a trainer in the trainings and regional workshops.

Charles Sturt University

- Implementing partner Subcontractor
- Capabilities and experiences relevant to the project

Charles Sturt University has extensive experience in wetlands and freshwater ecology, climate change and ecosystem services. Professor Finlayson, will participate in the project as the wetlands expert from Charles Sturt University, providing technical assistance in the components of climate change, ecosystem services and monitoring. He has extensive experience with the assessment of coastal wetlands to climate change, including establishing a wetland vulnerability assessment protocol for the Ramsar Convention. He has also contributed to the IPCC assessment reports on climate change, and undertaken wetland adaptation projects in a number of countries. He has extensive experience with the assessment of ecosystem services and payment for ecosystem services including in Australia, Colombia, China and India.

He has extensive experience in monitoring wetlands in many countries and climate conditions, including the development of early warning systems for ecological change from multiple stressors. He has contributed to the development of multi-disciplinary monitoring science-based programs, including the involvement of citizen science, covering chemical, physical and biological change.

- Function/role in the project proposed
Provide technical advice and help in the development of methodologies and materials for the activities under WPI, WPIII. Professor Finlayson will also participate as a trainer in the trainings and regional workshops.

Centro Regional para el Hemisferio Occidental (CREHO)

- Implementing partner Subcontractor
- Capabilities and experiences relevant to the project
CREHO has been working in the Latin American region since it started its activities in 2004. They work in strengthening the capacities of the various regional actors based on the technical implementation of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. They have experience in training for 13 years related to the wise use and management of wetlands. They have implemented different training courses on the areas of wetland management, environmental impact assessment, blue forests, ecosystem base adaptation (AbE) in marine ecosystems, marine spatial planning and management plans of wetlands.

CREHO was created by the government of Panama originally through Law 22 of 7th July 2004 as an international institution with legal status and independent means to promote wetland wise use and training. Later on by the Executive Resolution No.3 of 17th May 2015 the government of Panama recognizes the Center as International Organization in Panama and provides is legal personality. A Board of Directors, chaired by the Ministry of Environment of Panama, administers the Centre.

- Function/role in the project proposed
Provide technical support and carry some of the training components such as the Ramsar Site management and ICZM training course. The technical staff will participate as trainers in the trainings and regional workshops.

	<p>Neurones Technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Implementing partner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subcontractor <u>Capabilities and experiences relevant to the project</u> <p>Neurones Technology is specialized in the development of software and IT solutions for web, business and mobile applications. Neurones is located in Geneva and Friburg.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Function/role in the project proposed</u> <p>Neurones will develop the project web site as well as the hosting and maintenance. This include platform, layout, pages for the web site (English & Spanish) and social media link to twitter, face book, you tube.</p> <p>Claro telecommunications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Implementing partner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subcontractor <u>Capabilities and experiences relevant to the project</u> <p>Claro is the largest telecommunications company in the Dominican Republic and provides local, long-distance, and wireless voice services, as well as internet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Function/role in the project proposed</u> <p>Claro will provide the services of telephone and internet services (staff for the project located in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic).</p>
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<p>2 Project classification</p>	
<p>2.1 Emission allowances</p>	<p>BMU-funding is used directly for greenhouse gas mitigation and/or carbon sinks, which will contribute to generating emission allowances, emission credits, or any other type of CO₂ compensation certificates. yes <input type="checkbox"/> no <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If so, the certificates generated by the project will be permanently cancelled in an approved register in favour of the International Climate Initiative. yes <input type="checkbox"/> no <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>2.2 Further information on the classification</p>	<p>In which group or groups of ecosystems is the project mainly active? (multiple answers possible)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fresh water, wetlands, rivers and lakes <input type="checkbox"/> Forest and forestry <input type="checkbox"/> Grassland, savannahs and deserts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oceans and coasts <input type="checkbox"/> Mountains <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <p><u>For projects in the funding area Biological diversity (IV), as well as for biodiversity relevant projects in the funding areas Adaptation (II) and Conservation and sustainable use of natural carbon sinks/REDD+ (III):</u> <u>Targets of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2010 of the CBD (Aichi Targets)</u></p>

	<p>To which of the 20 Aichi Targets does the project contribute? Please name up to 3 targets, which the projects mainly helps to attain³.</p> <p>Aichi Targets</p> <p>1. By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps taken to conserve and use it sustainably (Outputs III and IV).</p> <p>2. By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems (Outputs I and II).</p> <p>3. By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio economic conditions (Outputs I and II).</p> <p>10. By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning (Outputs I, II and III).</p> <p>11. By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes (Output III).</p> <p>15. By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification (Outputs II and III).</p>
<p>2.3 Environmental and social safeguards</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> A – High Risk <input type="checkbox"/> B – Medium Risk <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C – Low Risk</p> <p>The project applicant is obliged to adhere to the environmental and social safeguards of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) (interim IFC Performance Standards).⁴ The adherence to environmental and social safeguards has to be described in the yearly project reports. Any changes to the risk categorization during project implementation have to be communicated immediately.</p>

<p>3 Brief description</p>	
<p>3.1 Structured brief description</p>	<p>The project aims to implement effective conservation and wise use measures for Caribbean wetlands in order to maintain their ecological character contributing to 8</p>

³ An overview of the targets can be found on the website of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Available at: <http://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/>

⁴ IFC Performance Standard 1, however, is not applicable in the context of the International Climate Initiative. page 7

	<p>Caribbean countries' resilience and adaptability to climate change. Through assessment of ecosystem services and the vulnerability of 21 Ramsar Sites to climate change and their subsequent monitoring the project will provide the 8 participating governments with on the ground information on their wetlands' status and services in order to take action against possible negative changes to their wetlands. The capacity development programme of all major stakeholders on the values of coastal wetlands will address the lack of institutional capacity, weak policies and legislation to develop lasting tools and mechanisms for wetland's conservation and wise use. The implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management and Maritime Spatial Planning in the 8 participating Countries will improve legislation and regulations and the incorporation of these into planning and management tools will strengthen the governance of wetlands in the Caribbean.</p>
<p>4 Project concept</p>	
<p>4.1 Starting situation</p> <p>The Caribbean is one of the most vulnerable regions in the world with respect to exposure to the effects of climate change and also to natural hazards. However, since the mid-20th century the Caribbean region has undergone a remarkable transformation away from predominantly rural, agricultural-based economies to a situation where the majority of the population is urbanized. Nevertheless, there will be challenges for Caribbean states in holding onto the gains that have been made whilst at the same time moving towards sustainable water resources management.</p> <p>Below is a summary of the present situation related to wetlands and the project context as a reference scenario.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caribbean wetlands support important economic activities such nature based tourism and fisheries. • Land use change in the Caribbean ecosystems has resulted in degraded ecosystems and loss of biodiversity. These effects are expected to be exacerbated by climate change. • 75% of the Caribbean's coral reefs are at risk from overfishing and pollution. • Between 1985 and 2000, beaches in several Eastern Caribbean countries eroded at a rate of half a meter per year. In a region where more than half of the population lives within 1.5 km of the shoreline this is a serious threat. • There are 40 Ramsar Sites in the Caribbean, most of them with limited and outdated information on their current ecological status. • A preliminary assessment of the risk to coastal Ramsar Sites from climate change induced sea level rise showed that over 80% of sites will be affected by a 0-2m rise in sea level. However, specific information is missing for Caribbean wetlands. • Weak policies and institutional capacity in the region have hindered efforts to wisely use and manage wetlands. • In the majority of countries water management is just one section of a ministry portfolio and responsibilities are often shared among more than one government agency. • All the participating countries are considered small island developing states that have been shown to be particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change. • All participating countries are members of the Ramsar Regional Initiative for the Conservation and Wise Use of Caribbean wetlands have been working together since 2009. 	
<p>4.1.1 Starting situation in the target region</p>	<p>Besides management of Ramsar Sites and International Cooperation, the third pillar of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands in the "Wise Use of Wetlands", which is defined as "the maintenance of ecological character, achieved through the implementation of ecosystem approaches, within the context of sustainable development"</p> <p>Contracting Parties to the Convention have committed to Conserve and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world.</p> <p>With regards to the Caribbean region, countries have been affected by land-based activities, which are major sources of pollution of the coastal and marine environment. Ecosystems such as mangroves, sea grass areas and coral reefs have been adversely affected. Pollutants of the marine environment of the Wider Caribbean Region include solid waste and litter, Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), heavy</p>

metals, oils (hydrocarbons), nutrients, and sediments. These pollutants adversely affect the resources of the coastal and marine environment, in particular coral reefs, mangroves, sea grass communities and other associated wetlands that are habitat for endangered species, provide ecosystem services such as spawning and nursery areas, and feeding grounds, among others.

In spite that Caribbean countries have been working on activities such as reviewing of policies and legislation related to wetland management, development of wetland inventories, restoration activities, integrated management of water resources among others, Caribbean wetlands are probably some of the least known, least protected and most threatened wetlands in the World.

The key challenges and vulnerabilities may be summarized as follows. Data gathering and information availability and management are major challenges, which have been highlighted on many occasions. The lack of data compounded by barriers to making data available hampers the understanding of current water vulnerabilities, the ability to plan ahead and to identify appropriate adaptation strategies. Forward planning has been largely neglected and is symptomatic of a lack of appreciation of the need for having national water policies.

Countries' scenario

Antigua and Barbuda

In the Antigua and Barbuda Initial National Communication to the UNFCCC, six main water issues were identified: "water resource scarcity, high seasonal and inter-annual rainfall variability, high exposure of watersheds to stress and pollution, inadequate reservoir design and catchment management, high risk and vulnerability to floods and droughts, and sharing of water between sectors.

Sand mining activities in Barbuda have resulted in the destruction of underground fresh water sources in the island, for example in Spanish Point (Development Control Authority, 2001; Kairi Consultants Limited, 2007).

The use of pesticides and fertilizers on agricultural lands which border streams can result in contamination of surface water sources (USACE, 2004).

Some of the main problems with water related issues include pollution of water bodies due to increased development, land degradation and further solid and liquid waste pollution of water bodies affecting water supply and the maintenance of the ecological character of coastal ecosystems.

From the institutional perspective, some of the main difficulties that have been identified to implement the Convention on Wetlands are the insufficient funds for appropriate implementation, lack of national wetlands policy, competing uses of wetlands and multiple agencies concerning the management of wetlands. There is also need of a better collaboration of the various national agencies to address the implementation of water policies and other strategies in the country (e.g. on sustainable development, energy, extractive industries, poverty reduction).

Belize:

Legislation for water resources management was passed in 2010 and it is still in the stages of early implementation. According to the information provided by FAO AQUASTAT, some of the current problems associated with water management include pollution, inadequate waste management, groundwater contamination and salt water intrusion affecting coastal aquifers among others. Belize is also one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change according to the UNFCCC because of its long and low-lying coastline, its high number of small islands, its barrier reef (second longest in the coast) and forest cover and its vulnerability to natural disasters.

Several ministries, agencies and companies have a stake in water use and management in Belize. Overlaps are often found due to the nature of having so many fragmented organisations trying to fulfil similar duties, while some important areas are not addressed (Frutos, 2003).

Sustainable management of natural resources, strengthening institutional capacities, addressing vulnerability to climate changes and need for better technology and support for farmers have been identified as key issues to be addressed. Furthermore, with respect to Ramsar sites and protected areas, the need for increased management capacity and public awareness have been identified as a key issues as well as plans to address pressure from communities that extract and utilize resources within the protected areas.

Cuba

Cuba's water sector is very vulnerable to climate variability, with rainwater its only water resource. Between 1960 and 2000, the country experienced a decline in precipitation of 10 %. Coastal floods and sea water inundations are also leading to saline intrusion of the country's groundwater aquifers. The country's agriculture sector is also vulnerable to reduced water availability, droughts, and extreme weather events such as hurricanes.

The National Environmental Strategy 2007-2010 identified five main environmental issues: land degradation, deforestation, pollution, lost of biodiversity and water scarcity.

Among the consumers it can be observed problems due to deficient control of water supply and also problems in demand control; the last case is typical in agriculture, where the water for irrigation is wasted significantly.

In Cuba there are a lot of sugar industry areas with potential to pollute due to their waste.

In December 2012, the National Water Policy was approved as a mechanism that guarantees in the medium and long term the water supply in quantity and quality for the economy, society and the environment.

On the other hand, the lack of capacity building and human resources for site management has been identified as a difficulty as well as the lack of funds for infrastructure and equipment in Ramsar sites.

From the policy point of view, a better interaction and coordination among different authorities in charge of wetlands and water resources is required at the national level but also at the level of local governments, productive sectors such agriculture, mining, energy and forest.

Dominican Republic

Human activities and development is degrading the quality of water resources in the Dominican Republic. Surface waters are threatened by pollutants, mining of sand and gravel from rivers, damming and diversions of waterways, dredging of canals and deforestation. High levels of erosion resulting from deforestation cause sedimentation of rivers and this in turn has serious impacts on aquatic biodiversity and obstructs water flow. The main environmental problem affecting groundwater is the over extraction from aquifers, which has caused saltwater intrusion. Deforestation challenges result from activities in neighbouring Haiti as well.

The country also lacks a comprehensive water policy. Existing policies that guide the use of water resources are set by various agencies and are highly fragmented. Attempts to pass a new law for water resources based on Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) and the separation of roles, however, have not yet been successful.

Grenada

Environmental degradation presents a number of challenges to the Grenada water sector, affecting water quality, quantity and availability of surface and groundwater supplies (Government of Grenada, 2007a). These are largely associated with development due to population growth and tourism and have contributed to reductions in stream and river flow volumes, siltation of dams and reduced groundwater recharge

rates (ECLAC, 2007). Increased irrigation is expected to further impact on water catchment areas (MHE, 2000).

A number of other environmental issues are associated with agriculture such as pollution from chemicals and waste including washing of agricultural equipment and deforestation which causes erosion and siltation of waterways (DEA, 2001). Lakes are also prone to over growth during the dry season when water levels are considerably reduced which is exacerbated by over pumping (DEA, 2001).

Some of the other environmental issues in the country are associated with unsustainable land management and degradation of lowland coastal forests. The Ministry of Environment has identified the need for capacity development for their staff and key stakeholder as well as the need for data and information on their wetlands as key issues to address. They recognize that financial constraints constitute one of their main difficulties.

Jamaica

The country is predisposed to seawater intrusion into its coastal groundwater supplies and over-abstraction of this finite resource is already a management challenge, especially because drought is a recurrent problem. The agricultural sector has the greatest water demand and accounts for 75-85% of the water consumed in the country. These trends suggest an inherent vulnerability in this sector.

The environment provides the basis for the tourism industry, which is the most important economic sector in Jamaica and many impoverished rural and coastal communities rely on artisanal fishing and small-scale farming for their livelihoods and nourishment. Unfortunately, human settlements, commercial developments (particularly related to coastal tourism) and road networks are encroaching on natural habitats, often creating discontinuities in the environment and often contribute to its degradation. Many coastal roads cut off mangrove swamps from the sea, preventing them from functioning effectively as nurseries for marine fish and shellfish. Coral reefs and seagrass beds have suffered from the impacts of overfishing, sedimentation and agricultural runoff. Furthermore, there is increasing recognition that small changes in climate can trigger major, abrupt responses in eco-systems.

Some of the other challenges that the country faces are land degradation and pollution in urban and industrialized areas that threaten surface and ground waters as well as the marine environment.

There is the absence of a clearly defined policy and strategy towards the conservation and wise use of wetlands. In recent years, existing draft policies concerned with natural resource management as the focus has been on fiscal reform and economic development.

Saint Lucia

Rivers are prone to pollution, especially from sewage and agrochemicals (e.g. approximately 55% of land is used in agriculture), with 5 of the 7 main rivers believed to be at risk from contamination (MPDEH, 2006). As listed in the Saint Lucia Initial National Communication to the UNFCCC, the islands' freshwater resources are affected by housing, agriculture, indiscriminate abstraction, sewage disposal, solid waste disposal, tourism, fishing, river sand mining, manufacturing, river bathing and picnicking, and river alterations (MPDEH, 2001).

Other concerns relate to pollution and sedimentation of coastal ecosystems, water supply deficits, inadequate data and inadequate implementation of water related policies. Furthermore, the country was hit by Hurricane Tomas in 2010 resulting in watershed degradation from landslides and siltation of rivers.

Suriname:

At present, water courses are threatened due to deforestation activities related to development predominantly from the demand for lumber for exportation and mining for gold and other minerals, which notably includes bauxite. These activities result in

erosion and siltation of water ways. Mining in particular introduces the toxic pollutants cyanide and mercury which limits the sources of water that are available to some communities (Buitelaar *et al.*, 2007; CDERA, 2003; NIMOS, 2005). Activities in upper inland catchments affect the water flow rates to coastal wetlands, resulting in further environmental problems and both surface and groundwater supplies have been affected by this activity (NIMOS, 2002). Water withdrawals for irrigation also reduce water supplies in the dry season (NIMOS, 2005) and contamination of water and wetland ecosystems from pesticides is also a problem in rural areas (NIMOS, 2002; PAHO, 2007; Environmental Services and Support, 2009). Illegal mining threatens the ecological integrity of water catchments and therefore human health (van Dijk and de Wolf, 2008).

Coastal aquifers are threatened by seawater intrusion with rising sea levels, exacerbated by a decrease in groundwater recharge through over abstraction and decreasing precipitation (Bates *et al.*, 2008; Lewsey *et al.*, 2004; Werner and Simmons, 2009).

Gold mining is among the greatest threats to Suriname's rainforest. Large quantities of mercury are used by illegal miners to extract the ore. This poisons water resources and creates a toxic environment for aquatic species and endangers human life. Legal mining for bauxite and other minerals, crude oil production and timber logging are negatively impacting on the quality of surface and ground water, scarring the landscape, fragmenting and destroying habitats thus leading to loss of biodiversity. Logging impacts on the regeneration of plant species, increases soil erosion and surface runoff thereby increasing vulnerability to flooding during periods of heavy rainfall.

Some of the difficulties that the Suriname Forest Service have identified in relation to wetlands management include limited financial resources from the government budget, limited human resources and lack of communication with relevant actors.

According to FAO AQUASTAT there is no legislation on water or environment. A draft Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan and initiatives that focus on community outreach have been identified as future needs.

Below is the summary of the starting situation scenario of the countries participating in the project vs the project outputs and outcomes.

Countries	Output I	Output II	Output III	Output IV	Outcome Indicator 1	Outcome Indicator 2	Outcome Indicator 3
	Assessments on ecosystem services and vulnerability of Ramsar Sites to climate change	Identification of priority sites for climate change and biodiversity conservation	Monitoring program in Ramsar Sites	Increased awareness of all major stakeholders on the values of wetlands	Policies and regulations that promote wise use of wetlands effectively applied	Land-use and coastal and water management plans and sectoral policies that include wetland benefits	Implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management and Maritime Spatial Planning
Antigua & Barbuda	No-to start	No-to start	No-to start	Some progress	No - to start	Partially	No-to start
Belize	No-to start	No-to start	No- to start	Partially	Partially	Partially	National level-To start implementation
Cuba	Partially	No-to start	No- to start	Partially	Partially	Partially	Partially
Dominican Republic	Partially	No. to start	No- to start	Partially	Planned	Partially	Planned- to start

Grenada	No-to start	No-to start	No-to start	Partially	No-to start implementation	Partially	No-to start
Jamaica	No-to start	Planned	No-to start	Partially	In preparation	Partially	Partially
Saint Lucia	No-to start	No-to start	No-to start	Partially	No-to start	Partially	No-to start
Suriname	No-to start	No-to start	No-to start	Partially	No-to start	Partially	No-to start

With the implementation of the project some interventions will be carried out in 21 of the Sites that have been designated as Wetlands of International Importance or Ramsar Sites by the participating countries. In Annex 5 is the summary of the current status of the sites and the projects funded through Ramsar Small Grants Funds and activities of other donors. Please note that projects funded by IKI in the participating countries are not mentioned here but in section 5.1.

4.1.2 Project integration into strategies of the target country

Antigua and Barbuda

The Government has enacted its Environmental Protection and Management Act 2015, the National Physical Development Plan, an Energy Policy, and publicly made a commitment through the UNFCCC's Copenhagen Accord in 2010 to reduce the country's greenhouse gas emissions by 25% of its 1990 levels by 2020. Additionally, the Intended Nationally Determined Commitments (INDC) have also been submitted in preparation for the COP21 Paris agreements. They Third National Communication (TNC) was submitted on September 2016.

Biodiversity, agriculture, health, and water are highlighted as priorities in an overview of climate hazards and disasters experienced on the twin island state.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Marine Resources and Agro-industries has identified the lack of a national wetlands policy, competing uses for wetlands as priorities for action. Multiple agencies and legal instruments concerning the management of wetlands also need a better coordination. In recent years, the country has also been working in an IWRM policy.

The project (Outputs I and II) will support and strength the country's capacity to implement the existing environmental framework but also to address some of the key challenges such as the rising occurrences of environmental deterioration in both the terrestrial and marine environments, the vulnerability to natural disasters, the lack of coordination among multiple agencies to manage water resources and the raise of awareness about wetlands values with key stake holders (Outputs III and IV).

Belize

Legislation has been enacted for integrated water resources management; the Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute has been reactivated and is revising the Coastal Zone Management Plan; an agricultural policy has been formulated; and Sustainable Land Use Management Plan is being introduced by the Forest Department in order to address the issues of land degradation and deforestation.

According to a 2014 report by the Global Water Partnership, even though legislation for water resources management was passed in 2010, Belize has many challenges to implement it even though it has been trying to develop supporting regulation, instruments and organisations.

Outputs I, II and III of the project will support the identification of gaps in policies formulation and implementation but also will facilitate the articulation among agencies. Likewise, the project will strength the capacities to sustainable management of natural resources and protected areas.

Cuba

The government makes efforts to establish and implement national policies that take into account the objectives, strategies, programmes and implementation of all the MEAs. They aim is to improve the implementation of the Ramsar Convention by ensuring that all policies (National Environmental Strategy and the National Biodiversity Strategy, Plan for the System for National Protected Areas and the Watersheds) are integrated with the competent authorities as well as the agencies in charge of the water policy implementation such as local governments and productive sectors. The project will facilitate this process through Output I.

Other the priorities that have been established and that will be supported through outputs I to IV are the adaptability of biodiversity of wetlands to climate change, the assessments of ecosystem services, and capacity building.

Dominican Republic

The government has identified the need to implement the wetlands component of their National Biodiversity Strategy as well as the need to determine policies, strategies and agreements to maintain the ecological character of wetlands. This will be supported through Output I and II.

Over the past years, they have given a high priority to interventions that contribute to improving coastal ecosystems and water supply availability. Besides initiatives to manage transnational watersheds, the Ministry has also given special priority to the development of a framework for integrative land, water and biodiversity management by mainstreaming them into national strategies, strengthening institutional frameworks and establishing effective monitoring mechanisms. The project will give assistance to these priorities under Outputs I to III.

Furthermore, Outputs I and III will help the Ministry of Environment's priority to evaluate the effects of climate change on wetlands and what this would mean for the affected communities.

Grenada

The government of Grenada has identified the need to develop and implement wetlands related legislation. While there have been advancements with respect to the development of a national policy for water resources, implementation still needs to take place. Outputs I and II will support this process.

Jamaica

One of the priorities for the Ramsar Administrative Authority is the finalization of policies and strategies developed for the protection of wetland areas such as the 'Coastal Resources and Wetland Policy' and 'Protected Areas System Master Plan for Jamaica'. Output I, will give assistance to fulfil with this priority.

Vision 2030: Jamaica – National Development Plan, is a multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary macro-level planning tool for the government of Jamaica. Wetland considerations are expected to be incorporated in the medium term socioeconomic framework that guides its implementation and Output I also will support the goal. Outputs II, III and IV will support some of their other priorities such as the establishment of early warning systems for drought, strategies to mitigate land degradation and a water resources master plan. They have also identified the need for research, training and programmes to address climate change adaptation in the country.

Saint Lucia

Environmental management in Saint Lucia is guided by a number of national, regional and international policy imperatives and instruments. Some of the relevant in-

	<p>struments include the National Water Policy, the National Land Policy and the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and a National Energy Policy approved by the Cabinet of Ministers in June 2010.</p> <p>While there have been policy-level initiatives thanks to the implementation of external aid projects, a critical priority issue is the adequate implementation of water and land use policies related to improved governance for water resources. This will be assisted to Output I of the project. The Ministry of Environment has also prioritized training for staff to monitor and evaluate wetland ecosystems which will be addressed through Outputs II, III and IV.</p> <p>Suriname</p> <p>The government has identified the need for effective enforcement of the Game Law and the Nature Preservation Law in wetlands which will be supported by Output I of the project.</p> <p>Suriname has been focusing its efforts in identifying areas for protection of the headwaters of some of the major rivers in the country as well as of potential Ramsar sites. This will be assisted through outputs II and III. They have also focused on increasing the capacity of their staff by capacity building efforts (Output IV).</p> <p>In terms of the connection of the project to the implementation of international processes in each country, the activities and outcomes of the projects will contribute as follows:</p> <p>The project is directly related to the Ramsar Convention Strategic Plan 2016 – 2024 and helps Contracting Parties implement specific targets such as targets 1, 5, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16 and 18. The project also contributes to the countries' National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans as it directly relates to Aichi Targets 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 11, 14, 15 and 19 that are aligned with Ramsar Strategic Plan. Furthermore, the Ramsar Convention works jointly with the CBD in the delivery of its Jakarta Mandate programme of work on marine and coastal ecosystems, notably concerning ICZM, so this will also be implemented.</p> <p>All Parties submitted their NDCs 1st and 2nd and therefore the project contributes to most Parties' implementation of their Nationally Intended Contributions and supports the implementation Article 7 of the Paris Agreement. It also contributes to the implementation of Ramsar Resolutions X.24 Climate Change and Wetlands and XI.14. Climate change and wetlands: implications for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.</p> <p>Besides contributing to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024 the project directly contributes to achieving the following SDGs in the participating countries: Goal 6 (targets 6.5 and 6.6), Goal 13 (targets 13.1, 13.2, 13.3).</p>
<p>4.2 Project goals and results</p>	
<p>4.2.1 Target group</p>	<p>The actors to benefit from the project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ramsar Administrative Authorities of the 8 participating countries: They are in charge of implementing the Ramsar convention in their own territories. They have a prominent role in the project as they will participate in the training, workshops and will support the majority of activities. Through the project, they will gain new skills and the capacities of each government agency will be increased. • National, regional and local governments: governmental institutions that have implement policies at national, regional and local levels. They will participate in the training and workshops as necessary and will implement some of the activities. Through the project, they will gain new skills and knowledge that they will then need to apply at their constituency level. • National environmental agencies (Ministries of Agriculture, Tourism, Fisheries): governmental institutions that have national incidence in the development and im-

	<p>plementation of policies and plans. They will participate in the training and workshops as necessary and will implement some of the activities. Through the project, they will gain new skills and knowledge that they will then be able to apply.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Productive sectors (tourism, fisheries, and agriculture): Key stakeholders for the implementation of plans, ICZM as well as of measures that could impact biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation. They will participate and gain new skills and knowledge through WP III that they can then apply in their respective industries nationally and locally. • Local key stakeholders including private sectors: Key stakeholders for the implementation of measures that could impact biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation at the local level and that could be directly affected by the impacts of climate change. They will participate and gain new skills and knowledge that they can then apply in their respective sectors through WP III. • Communities using the sites or living near them: Key stakeholders for the implementation of measures that could impact biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation directly on Ramsar sites and that could be highly affected by the impacts of climate change on the Ramsar sites. They will participate and gain new skills and knowledge that they can then apply in their respective communities particularly through WP III. • Environmental organizations (local and regional). Key organisations for the implementation of measures that could impact biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation at regional, national and local levels. Their role in knowledge dissemination is also very important. They will participate and gain new skills and knowledge that they can then apply in their respective sectors through WP III.
<p>4.2.2. Impacts (long-term results)</p>	<p>Caribbean wetlands contribution to climate change mitigation includes protection against extreme natural events, carbon storage, flood control, reduction in coastal erosion among others. Wetlands are also among the most diverse and productive ecosystems. They provide essential services and supply all of our fresh water. Beyond water availability and quality, they are invaluable in supporting climate change mitigation and adaptation, disaster risk reduction, supporting health as well as livelihoods, local development and poverty eradication.</p> <p>In spite of the multiple services that Caribbean wetlands provide including the support to important economic activities such nature based tourism and fisheries, they have been degraded and loss their biodiversity due to land use change, overfishing and pollution. These effects are expected to be exacerbated by climate change. Besides weak policies and institutional capacity in the region have hindered efforts to wisely use and manage wetlands.</p> <p>According to the above, the impact of the project is to manage and wisely use Caribbean wetlands to avoid changes in their ecological character increasing their resilience to climate change and the long term conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services. This will be achieved providing Parties with tools to wisely use and manage wetlands under an ecosystem-based adaptation and ICZM approach while also reinforcing legislation and developing the countries' capacities to better address climate variability and develop sound mitigation and adaptation measures.</p>
<p>4.2.3 Outline of the results chain underlying the project proposal</p>	<p>To achieve the long term conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services of Caribbean wetlands and increase their resilience to climate change, key actors (incl Ministries of Environment, Ramsar Administrative Authorities, site managers, ministries of tourism, fisheries and agriculture) have to manage and wisely use Caribbean wetlands to avoid changes in their ecological character (impact). This will be accomplished by the assessment of the status and vulnerability of Ramsar Sites to climate change (Output I), the identification of priority sites for climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as biodiversity conservation (Output II), the establishment of a Monitoring program in 8 Ramsar Sites in place and operation (Output III)</p>

	<p>and the increased awareness of all major stakeholders on the values of coastal wetlands (Output IV).</p> <p>As a result it is expected that governance and management of Ramsar Sites are effectively improved mainstreaming the Ramsar concept of maintenance of their ecological character, through the implementation of ecosystem approaches within the context of sustainable development, and the Integration of Coastal Zone Management and Maritime Spatial Planning in policies and regulations at all levels, with concrete changes in legislation, including climate change policies. This will provide countries with lasting tools and mechanism for decision making at regional, national and local levels.</p>
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Impact			
Reinforced legislation provides parties measures to manage effectively and to wisely use Caribbean wetlands to avoid changes in their ecological character increasing their resilience to climate change.			
Outcome			
Governance and management of Ramsar sites are effectively improved, mainstreaming the Ramsar concept of maintenance of their ecological character and Integrated Coastal Zone Management and Maritime Spatial Planning in policies and regulations at all levels.			
Output I	Output II	Output III	Output IV
Assessments on current status, ecosystem services and the vulnerability of Caribbean Ramsar Sites (21) to climate change.	Identification of priority sites for climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as biodiversity conservation	Monitoring program in 8 Ramsar Sites in place and operation	Increased awareness of all major stakeholders on the values of coastal wetlands

4.2.4 Outcome (overarching project goal) including indicators	<p>Outcome:</p> <p>Governance and management of Ramsar sites are effectively improved, mainstreaming the Ramsar concept of maintenance of the ecological character and Integrated Coastal Zone Management and Maritime Spatial Planning in policies and regulations at all levels.</p> <p>Indicators for the outcome:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td colspan="3">Outcome indicator 0.1: Policies and regulations that promote wise use of coastal wetlands effectively applied in all participating countries.</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">Unit</td> <td style="width: 45%;">Baseline (start of project)</td> <td style="width: 40%;">Target value (end of project)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of policies and regulations</td> <td>0</td> <td>8 national policies and regulations revised, modified or developed in participating countries. By 06-2022</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Means of verification and a description of the procedure (data sources, data collection, measurement methods etc. :)</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Publication of policies or regulations, revised, modified or developed available in all participating countries.</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Outcome indicator 0.2: Land-use and coastal and water management plans as well as sectoral or environmental policies (fisheries, tourism, fisheries) that include wetland benefits for the conservation and wise use of wetlands in all participating countries.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unit</td> <td>Baseline (start of project)</td> <td>Target value (end of project)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>0</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>			Outcome indicator 0.1: Policies and regulations that promote wise use of coastal wetlands effectively applied in all participating countries.			Unit	Baseline (start of project)	Target value (end of project)	Number of policies and regulations	0	8 national policies and regulations revised, modified or developed in participating countries. By 06-2022	Means of verification and a description of the procedure (data sources, data collection, measurement methods etc. :)			Publication of policies or regulations, revised, modified or developed available in all participating countries.			Outcome indicator 0.2: Land-use and coastal and water management plans as well as sectoral or environmental policies (fisheries, tourism, fisheries) that include wetland benefits for the conservation and wise use of wetlands in all participating countries.			Unit	Baseline (start of project)	Target value (end of project)		0	
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	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="478 145 600 394">Number of sectoral plans and policies</td> <td data-bbox="600 145 1018 394"></td> <td data-bbox="1018 145 1482 394"> <p>8 Land use and coastal and water management plans and sectoral policies in all participating countries include wetland benefits.</p> <p>By 06-2022</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" data-bbox="478 394 1482 551"> <p>Means of verification:</p> <p>Documentation of sectoral policies or plans that include information on wetland benefits or ecosystem services of Caribbean wetlands generated by the project. Attendance sheet to workshops.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" data-bbox="478 595 1482 752"> <p>Outcome indicator 0.3:</p> <p>Implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management and Maritime Spatial Planning by national governments of the participating countries.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="478 752 600 999">Unit</td> <td data-bbox="600 752 1018 999">Baseline (start of project)</td> <td data-bbox="1018 752 1482 999">Target value (end of project)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="478 999 600 1122">Number of Ramsar sites</td> <td data-bbox="600 999 1018 1122">0</td> <td data-bbox="1018 999 1482 1122"> <p>8 Ramsar sites with ICZM and Maritime Spatial Planning formulate and in operation.</p> <p>By 06-2022</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" data-bbox="478 1122 1482 1200"> <p>Means of verification:</p> <p>ICZM and Maritime Spatial Planning documents for each site (one per country). Training course and workshops.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	Number of sectoral plans and policies		<p>8 Land use and coastal and water management plans and sectoral policies in all participating countries include wetland benefits.</p> <p>By 06-2022</p>	<p>Means of verification:</p> <p>Documentation of sectoral policies or plans that include information on wetland benefits or ecosystem services of Caribbean wetlands generated by the project. Attendance sheet to workshops.</p>			<p>Outcome indicator 0.3:</p> <p>Implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management and Maritime Spatial Planning by national governments of the participating countries.</p>			Unit	Baseline (start of project)	Target value (end of project)	Number of Ramsar sites	0	<p>8 Ramsar sites with ICZM and Maritime Spatial Planning formulate and in operation.</p> <p>By 06-2022</p>	<p>Means of verification:</p> <p>ICZM and Maritime Spatial Planning documents for each site (one per country). Training course and workshops.</p>		
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4.2.5 Outputs (specific project goals) including indicators and work packages (activities)	<p>Output I: Assessments on current status, ecosystem services and the vulnerability of Caribbean Ramsar Sites (21) to climate change.</p> <p>Indicators for output I:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="3" data-bbox="478 1357 1482 1480"> <p>Indicator I.1:</p> <p>21 Caribbean Ramsar sites with assessments on current status, ecosystem services and vulnerability to climate change.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="478 1480 600 1715">Unit</td> <td data-bbox="600 1480 1018 1715">Baseline (start of project)</td> <td data-bbox="1018 1480 1482 1715">Target value and planned date of attainment</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="478 1715 600 1872">Number of Ramsar Sites</td> <td data-bbox="600 1715 1018 1872">0</td> <td data-bbox="1018 1715 1482 1872"> <p>21 Ramsar Sites with complete assessments.</p> <p>By: 06/2020</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" data-bbox="478 1872 1482 1995"> <p>Means of verification:</p> <p>Reports of assessments, reports from regional workshops and training courses, attendance sheets, fact sheets on ecosystem services and vulnerability to climate change.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" data-bbox="478 1995 1482 2069"> <p>Activities corresponding to output I:</p> <p>Work package (WP I): Assessment of status, ecosystem services and vulnerability to climate change of Caribbean Ramsar sites.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Indicator I.1:</p> <p>21 Caribbean Ramsar sites with assessments on current status, ecosystem services and vulnerability to climate change.</p>			Unit	Baseline (start of project)	Target value and planned date of attainment	Number of Ramsar Sites	0	<p>21 Ramsar Sites with complete assessments.</p> <p>By: 06/2020</p>	<p>Means of verification:</p> <p>Reports of assessments, reports from regional workshops and training courses, attendance sheets, fact sheets on ecosystem services and vulnerability to climate change.</p>			<p>Activities corresponding to output I:</p> <p>Work package (WP I): Assessment of status, ecosystem services and vulnerability to climate change of Caribbean Ramsar sites.</p>					
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<p>Activities corresponding to output I:</p> <p>Work package (WP I): Assessment of status, ecosystem services and vulnerability to climate change of Caribbean Ramsar sites.</p>																			

Sturt University will develop the methodology for the Assessment of the status, ecosystems services and vulnerability of Caribbean Ramsar Sites to climate change and will participate as technical expert in the workshops and training sessions. Ramsar National Focal Points as well as staff from relevant ministries (Environment, Agriculture, Fisheries, Tourism, and Planning) and NGOs, academia will participate in the workshops, trainings as well as in the assessments.

Through the project current policies and regulations in all participating countries will be reviewed to identify areas where there are gaps or where they can be modified or developed. Interchange of experiences will be facilitated as well as regional and local workshops on wetlands governance.

Activity (A I.1)

Development of the methodology for the Assessment of the status, ecosystems services and vulnerability of Caribbean Ramsar Sites to climate change. The methodology will include the scope, collection of data including standard formats, etc) and will be based on the TEEB report and similar Ramsar and CBD guidelines.

Activity (A I.2)

Conduct regional workshops on Ecosystem Services and Climate Change to discuss with key actors (staff from Ministries of Environment, Fisheries, Agriculture, and Tourism), NGOs, academia, the methodology for the assessments and get inputs for the sectoral or environmental policies (fisheries, tourism, and agriculture). This activity will support Activity A II.2 of Output II.

Activity (A I.3)

Conduct the assessment of the status, ecosystems services and vulnerability of Caribbean Ramsar Sites (21) to climate change. This activity will also inform the identification of priority sites for climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as biodiversity conservation (Output II).

Activity (A I.4)

Conduct the review of 21 Ramsar Sites in the Caribbean to determine the effectiveness of management arrangements according to Ramsar guidelines (Resolution XII.15) and CBD related guidelines.

Activity (A I.5)

Provide technical assistance through a training Course on Climate Change and Ecosystem Services for Ramsar National Focal Points as well as staff from relevant ministries (Environment, Agriculture, Fisheries, Tourism, and Planning) NGOs, and academia.

Activity (A I.6)

Conduct the revision, modification or development as needed of national policies or regulations, including those related to environmental impacts, productive sectors etc to ensure the implementation of the wise use concept. Prepare the relevant reports regionally and for each country.

Activity (A I.7)

Conduct regional and national workshops and training of relevant authorities (Ministries of Environment, Fisheries, Tourism and Agriculture) on governance of water and wetlands for exchange experiences on status and gaps of policies and regulations for wetlands in the Caribbean as well as on Integrated Coastal Zone Management, Maritime Spatial Planning and management of Ramsar Sites.

Milestone corresponding to output I:

Milestone I.1: Application of the methodology for the assessment of 21 Ramsar Sites based on activity AI.1 (date of achievement 06. 2020).

Milestone I.2:

Post training assessment and a final assessment of the participant’s capacities to implement the assessment methodology on ecosystem services and climate change vulnerability in each country (date of achievement 09.2021),

Output II: Identification of priority sites for climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as biodiversity conservation.

Indicators for output II:

Indicator II.1:

Priority sites identified for each country

Unit	Baseline (start of project)	Target value
Number of sites	0	One or more sites identified per country. By: 03/2019

Means of verification:

Reports from regional and national workshops, attendance sheets, regional report and for each country outlining the identification of priority sites for climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as biodiversity conservation.

Activities corresponding to output II:

Work package (WP II): priority sites for climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as biodiversity conservation.

Sturt University will develop the methodology for the identification of priority sites for climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as biodiversity conservation taken in consideration the Ramsar Convention Framework for the designation of wetlands of International Importance and CBD related guidelines on protected areas. They will participate as technical expert in the workshops and training sessions. Ramsar National Focal Points as well as staff from relevant ministries (Environment, Agriculture, Fisheries, Tourism, and Planning) and NGOs, academia will participate in the regional and national workshops.

Activity (A II.1)

Development of the methodology of priority sites for climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as biodiversity conservation using Ramsar and CBD Convention guidelines. The methodology will include the criteria for the identification of priority sites and priority areas. The results of Output I will also support the development of the methodology and identification of priority sites.

Activity (A II.2)

Conduct regional and national workshops on climate change and ecosystem services with the key participants agencies/institutions to identify priority sites for climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as biodiversity conservation (same as activity AI.2 of Output I).

Activity (A II.3)

Application of the methodology to identify priority sites for climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as biodiversity conservation in each country.

Activity (A II.4)

Implement Integrated Coastal Zone Management and Maritime Spatial Planning in 8 Ramsar Sites in coordination with relevant authorities and stakeholders including local Communities.

Milestone corresponding to output II:

Milestone II.1: Application of the methodology for the identification of priority sites for climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as biodiversity conservation based on Activity A.II.1 (date of achievement 12.2019)

Milestone II.2:

Output III: Monitoring program in 8 Ramsar Sites in place and operation

Indicators for output III:

Indicator III.1:

Monitoring programmes in place in each of the participating countries.

Unit	Baseline (start of project)	Target value
Number of monitoring programmes in place and operation	0	1 monitoring programme in place in 8 Ramsar sites. At least one per country. By: 06/2022

Means of verification:

Reports of regional and national workshops, curriculum of trainings, evaluation of trainings, attendance sheets, guide on monitoring programmes, data collected throughout from its establishment until the end of the project.

Activities corresponding to output III:

Work package (WP III): Monitoring programme on Ramsar Sites

Sturt University will provide inputs for the establishment of an effective monitoring programme for Ramsar sites with an early warning system for changes in ecological character especially those related to climate change. Ministries' technical personnel and from key institutions will participate in the regional and national workshops, training courses and will implement the monitoring program.

Training courses and workshops on planning and management of Ramsar Sites will also be provided to technical staff of relevant ministries and organizations. IHE-Delft Institute for Water and Education will support the training courses as well as the Regional Center for Training and Capacity Building in Panama.

Activity (A III.1)

Design of a monitoring programme for Ramsar Sites for the core team from the participating institutions with an early warning system for changes in ecological character especially those related to climate change. The programme will include the scope, methodology and mechanisms for establishment and implementation.

Activity (A III.2)

Conduct regional, national workshops and trainings for the core team from the participating institutions in monitoring guidelines to establish and implement the monitoring programme in each of the participating countries.

Milestone corresponding to output III:

Milestone III.1:

Monitoring program for Ramsar Sites designed based on activity III.1 (December 2018).

Milestone III.2:

Post training assessment and a final assessment of the participant’s capacities to implement the monitoring programme in each country. (date of achievement December 2021),

Output IV: Increased awareness of all major stakeholders on the values of coastal wetlands

Indicators for output IV:

Indicator IV.1:

The capacities on conservation and sustainable use of Caribbean wetlands of all key players (such as staff from Ministries of Environment, Fisheries, Agriculture, Tourism and local communities, private sector, local NGOs) are strengthened by the project through trainings, technical advisory and joint learning events.

Unit	Baseline (start of project)	Target value and planned date of attainment
Number of stakeholders participating in the capacity building programme or similar events.	0	At least 1600 government personnel and 400 actors from other organizations. By: 06/2022

Means of verification:

Attendance sheets, documentation and reports from the training sessions, evaluation of trainings. Capacity development programme, reports from the training sessions, attendance sheets from session, training materials.

<p>Indicator IV.2:</p> <p>Post evaluation of the quality of the capacity building programme to strengthen the capacities on conservation and sustainable use of Caribbean wetlands of all key players (such as staff from Ministries of Environment, Fisheries, Agriculture, Tourism and local communities, private sector, local NGOs).</p>		
<p>Unit</p> <p>Evaluation of the quality of the capacity building programme or similar events.</p>	<p>Baseline (start of project)</p> <p>0</p>	<p>Target value and planned date of attainment</p> <p>Results of the post evaluation of the capacity building programme.</p> <p>By: 06/2022</p>
<p>Means of verification:</p> <p>Evaluation of the training sessions, technical advisory and joint learning events including training materials.</p>		
<p>Activities corresponding to output IV:</p> <p>Work package (WP IV): Capacity building of key actors</p> <p>Capacity development of key actors is strengthened. IHE-Delft Institute for Water Education will support this work package through the development of the capacity development programme. Technical staff from ministries of Environment, Agriculture, Fisheries, Tourism, Planning and, local communities, private sector, local NGOs will participate in workshops and training courses.</p> <p>Activity (A IV.1)</p> <p>Conduct of a training and capacity needs assessment among the key participating agencies staff (Ministries of Environment, Agriculture, Fisheries, Tourism, Planning) to inform the design of the capacity building interventions that will be implemented for this target group (baseline assessment).</p> <p>Activity (A IV.2)</p> <p>Design of a capacity building plan for the core team from the participating agencies/institutions to be trained. The plan will include the scope, methodology, modality of delivery (e.g. classroom learning, field-level exposure, etc.) and other details to address training and capacity needs.</p> <p>Activity (A IV.3)</p> <p>Conduct of technical trainings, workshops, and learning events for the core team from the participating agencies/institutions to build capacities on ecosystem services and climate change, wetlands governance, Ramsar Site management and ICZM. Training sessions mentioned here are linked with Work Packages I, II and III.</p> <p>Activity (A IV.4)</p>		

	<p>Conduct of a field level learning exchange in identified good practice models for national government representatives to understand challenges, costs and benefits, and facilitating factors that enable the sustained and effective management of wetlands conservation.</p> <p>Activity (A IV.5) Development of a realistic plan for replicating the training to other trainers and officers of the key participating agencies (Ministries of Environment, Agriculture, Fisheries, Tourism, Planning).</p> <p>Activity (A IV.6) Documentation of procedural and institutional improvements in Ministries of Environment, Agriculture, Fisheries, Tourism, Planning (key agencies) in the formulation of frameworks and institutional policies that integrate improved governance and management of Ramsar sites as a result of the training conducted with the key agencies.</p> <p>Activity (A IV.7) Organize a Side event on Wise Use of Caribbean wetlands for climate change mitigation at Ramsar Convention COP13 and COP14, at CBD COP15 and COP24 of the UNFCCC to present by the political partners the aim of the project, the main results of the capacity assessments needs and the contribution of other results of the project to the Paris Agreement, Agenda 2030 and the Strategic Plans for Biodiversity, Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and the UNFCCC.</p> <p>Milestone IV.1 Capacity baseline development based on activity IV.1 (02/ 2019).</p> <p>Milestone IV.2 Post training assessments and a final assessment of the participants' capacity/learning improvements to determine capacity building results (as against the baseline) (06/ 2022).</p>												
<p>4.2.6. Standard indicators for the aggregation of results</p>	<p>Action indicators</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> AM (Action Mitigation): GHG emission reduced or carbon stocks enhanced in project/programme area</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="483 1373 1474 1496"> <thead> <tr> <th>Unit</th> <th>Target value (end of project)</th> <th>Target value for the complete lifespan of the measure (including after the end of the project)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>t CO₂ eq.</td> <td></td> <td>until (year)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Please (1) state the <u>rational</u> for the applicability of the standard indicator and its target value (at the end of the project or for the complete lifespan of the measure), as well as (2) the possible means of <u>verification</u>:</p> <p>(1) Rational: (2) Verification:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AP (Action People): No. of people directly supported by the project to adapt to climate change or to conserve ecosystems</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="483 1872 1474 2056"> <thead> <tr> <th>Unit</th> <th>Target value (end of project)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Number of persons</td> <td>1,600</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Proportion of women in %</td> <td>50%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Unit	Target value (end of project)	Target value for the complete lifespan of the measure (including after the end of the project)	t CO ₂ eq.		until (year)	Unit	Target value (end of project)	Number of persons	1,600	Proportion of women in %	50%
Unit	Target value (end of project)	Target value for the complete lifespan of the measure (including after the end of the project)											
t CO ₂ eq.		until (year)											
Unit	Target value (end of project)												
Number of persons	1,600												
Proportion of women in %	50%												

Please (1) state the rational for the applicability of the standard indicator and the target value (at the end of the project) as well as (2) the possible means of verifi-
cation:

- (1) Rational: Capacity development of key actors is strengthened through the development of a capacity development programme that includes training sessions, technical advisory and joint learning events on ecosystem services and climate change, wetlands governance, Ramsar Site management and ICZM.
- (2) Verification: Results of the evaluation of the capacity development programme (evaluation questionnaires, including evaluation of the training sessions, technical advisory and joint learning events)

AE (Action Ecosystems): Area of ecosystems improved or protected by project measures

Unit	Target value (end of project)
Ha	1,401,150 of 21 Ramsar Sites
km (coastline) (only with interventions at coastal Ramsar Sites)	883,176

Please (1) state the rational for the applicability of the standard indicator and the target value (at the end of the project) as well as (2) the possible means of verifi-
cation:

- (1) Rational: Through the activities of the project current and future management practices of wetlands in particular Ramsar Sites will be improved specially under Outputs I to III.
- (2) Verification: Application and response's surveys of the management authorities of each of the 21 Ramsar Sites that confirm improvements in management in relation to the starting situation at the beginning of the project. It will include for the relevant sites the type of protected area according to IUCN criteria.

Please specify the ecosystem-improving measures as: (multiple answers possible)

- Restoration of ecosystems
- Protected area established or extended
- Management for protected area improved
- Afforestation
- Avoided deforestation
- Other: management of wetlands in general improved and identification of priorities for conservation.

For measures concerning protected areas, please specify the type of protected area according to IUCN criteria⁵ as:

- Strict Nature Reserve
- Wilderness Area
- National Park
- Natural Monument
- Habitat/Species Management Area
- Protected Landscape/Seascape
- Managed Resource Protected Area

Some of the Ramsar Sites are under IUCN classification of protected areas.

Capacity indicators

⁵ Available at: http://www.iucn.org/about/work/programmes/gpap_home/gpap_quality/gpap_pacategories/.

CP (Capacity Policies): No. of new or improved policy frameworks developed to address climate change and/or conserve biodiversity

Unit	Target value (end of project)
Number of political frameworks	16 Level: <input type="checkbox"/> global/regional <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> subnational <input type="checkbox"/> local

Please (1) state the rational for the applicability of the standard indicator and the target value (at the end of project), the (2) possible means of verification, as well as (3) a list of the policy frameworks including their corresponding levels:

(1) Rational: The revision, modification or development of national policies and the inclusion of wetland benefits in sectoral plans and policies done in each country. Relevant outcome/output indicators:

Outcome indicator 0.1: 8 national policies and regulations revised, modified or developed in participating countries.

Outcome indicator 0.2: 8 Land use, coastal and water management plans and sectoral policies in all participating countries include wetland benefits.

(2) Verification: modified or newly developed policies and plans that include the concept of wise use of wetlands and their benefits. With the intervention of the project it is expected to reach around 1600 staff from the different Ministries and agencies.

(3) Policy frameworks including levels: National – revision, modification and/or development policies as needed at the national level in each country. This also applies to the inclusion of wetland benefits and the wise use concept in national sectoral plans, policies and strategies.

Estimated scope of the policy framework(s):

- Greenhouse gases reduced/avoided: [t CO_{2eq}] by 20 [year]
 x Individuals reached [2000] by 2022 [year]
 Area of ecosystems improved/protected: 1,401,150 [ha] by 2022 [year]

Rational for scope and target value:

At a minimum, the project is expected to improve the ecosystems of all the 21 Ramsar sites in the participating countries. Additionally around 400 persons from the Ramsar Sites are expected to benefit from the new policies or policy amendments. Also are included the policies that are amended or created together with the interim project reports.

CI (Capacity Institutions): No. of new or improved institutionalised structures or processes to address climate change and conserve biodiversity

Unit	Target value (end of project)
Number of structures/processes	8 Level: <input type="checkbox"/> global/regional <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> subnational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local Applying actor: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private sector <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> civil society

Please (1) state the rational for the applicability of the standard indicator and the target value (at the end of project), the (2) possible means of verification, as well as (3) a list of the institutionalized structures or processes including their corresponding levels and applying actors:

- (1) Rational: By the end of the project, improved processes will be in place for the implementation of national sectoral policies, ICZM and Maritime spatial planning and monitoring by at least 8 national public institutions, one per country (Activities and indicators under outputs I-IV). Furthermore, through training and the WP II and IV national and local stakeholders will be better trained to manage and wisely use Caribbean wetlands for biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation and to further understand their contributions and the importance of coastal wetlands in ICZM (cf. Activities under WP III).
- (2) Verification: Improved processes in place and number of people trained achieved through all outputs and their activities. Representative surveys of the participating institutions in which the institutionalized processes have been improved.
- (3) Structures or processes including the levels and applying actors: Public, private and civil society actors participate in the improvement of 8 processes at national and 8 at local levels as needed.

Estimated scope of the structures/processes:

- Greenhouse gases reduced/avoided: [t CO_{2eq.}] by 20 [year]
- Individuals reached 2000 [number] by 2022 [year]
- Area of ecosystems improved/protected: 1,401,150 [ha] by 2022 [year]

Rational for scope and target value:

At least 250 people per country who have incidence in the implementation of the improved processes to address climate change and conserve biodiversity are directly reached by the project. The project is expected to have a direct effect on all Ramsar sites in participating countries.

CM (Capacity Methods): Number of new or improved methodological tools developed to address climate change and conserve biodiversity

Unit	Target value (end of project)
Number of methods	4
	Level ⁶ : <input type="checkbox"/> global/regional <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> subnational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local
	Applying actor: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private sector <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> civil society

Please (1) state the rational for the applicability of the standard indicator and the target value (at the end of project), the (2) possible means of verification, as well as (3) a list of the methodological tools including their corresponding levels and applying actors:

- (1) Rational: Through the project 4 main methodological tools will be developed and adapted for Caribbean countries namely: Methodology for the assessment of ecosystem services and vulnerability of Caribbean wetlands to climate change (activity AI.1), methodology for the implementation of ICZM and Maritime Spatial Planning (activity AII.4), methodology for the establishment of a monitoring programme (activity A.III.1), methodology and

⁶ Further explanations about the levels can be found in the Guidelines on project planning and monitoring, page 14.

	<p>training materials for capacity development of national and local stakeholders (activities A IV.1, A IV.2).</p> <p>(2) Verification: Methodologies for the implementation of ICZM and Maritime Spatial Planning, the establishment of a monitoring programme and training materials for capacity development finalized and implemented through workshops, training and data collection</p> <p>(3) Methodological tools including the levels and applying actors: The first three methodologies mentioned under the rationale are to be applied by the public sector at national and local levels. The last methodology is directed at all actors from the public and private sectors as well as civil society and applies at the national and local levels.</p> <hr/> <p>Estimated scope of the methodological tools:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse gases reduced/avoided: [t CO_{2eq.}] by 20 [year]</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individuals reached 2000 [number] by 2022 [year]</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Area of ecosystems improved/protected: 1,401,150 [ha] by 2022 [year]</p> <p>Rationale for scope and target value:</p> <p>At least 250 people per country who have incidence in the implementation of the methodologies will be directly benefited by the project, this may increase in the future as once the methodologies are established and put in practice they can be used and adapted in perpetuity. The project is expected to have a direct effect on all Ramsar sites in participating countries and this will likely extend to other wetlands in the participating countries. In this context it is expected other potential users of around 520 beyond the project timeframe</p>
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4.2.7 Technical, political and economic Risks	Type / Name of risk:		
	Risk	Level of the Risk	Risk minimisation strategy
	1) Weak policies, regulations and institutional environments.	Medium	Promotion of an integrated approach and focus on the thematic areas that are still of critical concern through reforms in policy, legislation and institutions, improvements and strengthen to institutional and human resources capacity; development of more effective and coordinated inter-sectoral management approaches (e.g. use of National Wetlands Committees or similar structures).
2) Laws within integrated policies and strategic plans is lacking in most of the countries	Medium	Contribute to reduce the obstacles in implementing sustainable interventions in the long term. Assistance to strengthen the governments capacities to take actions for an effective governance of wetlands. Capacity development programme of all major stakeholders on	

			the values of coastal wetlands. Assistance will also focus on mainstreaming ICZM, and ecosystem servicing into national plans/policies.
	3) ICZM and Maritime Spatial planning policies and plans are not accepted by the governments	Low	Wide consultation, participative and transparent process. Involvement in all stages key core team officers of agencies. Strong leadership by Ramsar Administrative Authorities (Minister or Prime Minister) and Focal Points.
	4) Continue changes in national authorities and focal points	Low/Medium	Involve multiple agencies and officers at different levels in all stages of the project.

4.3 Co-Benefits and safeguards

4.3.1 Contributions to economic, social, environmental development as well as the development of good governance (co-benefits)	<p>The main economic activities in the Caribbean region are tourism, fisheries and agriculture. The first two heavily rely on coastal and marine wetland resources while the latter relies on the often limited supply of freshwater from inland wetlands. By improving management, monitoring and mainstreaming the wise use of Caribbean wetlands into policies and legislation at all levels, this project directly contributes to protecting critical habitats and the services they provide while promoting sustainable livelihoods.</p> <p>Ramsar sites or Wetlands of International Importance in the Caribbean are very relevant in terms of the biodiversity, hydrological values and other benefits that they provide for economic development. The project will contribute to safeguard these key ecosystems as well as the services they provide but also to improve their management through capacity building and a participatory approach and implementation of Coastal Zone Management and Maritime Spatial Planning. The assessment will allow the identification of priority sites for climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as biodiversity conservation. This is important as many of the Ramsar sites in the Caribbean are vulnerable and underrepresented wetlands in the Convention.</p> <p>In which pillars of sustainable development are the described co-benefits located?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> environmental <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> economic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>good governance</i></p>
4.3.2 Safeguarding of social and environmental standards (Safeguards)	The use of Ramsar methodologies ensures a participatory approach to all the components of the project taking into account and respecting local communities, and their cultural and social values.

4.4 Other characteristics of the project	
4.4.1 Innovation character	<p>By including the Ramsar Convention's wise use concept in national policies and legislation, Contracting Parties will ensure that all wetlands are used in a way that their ecosystem services and ecological character are maintained and can be seen and used as key resources for climate change adaptation and mitigation. Furthermore, the inclusion of the Convention on Wetlands methodologies, concepts and CEPA initiatives will ensure that the project is flexible and adaptable to the reality of each country while maintaining a general structure that can be compared and shared through the region and may also be replicated elsewhere. The Ramsar concepts and methodologies will also ensure that all relevant sectors of society are taken into account.</p> <p>The project has been prepared with inputs and wide consultation with each of the participating countries through the Focal Points of the Convention on Wetlands so is firmly anchored under the Contracting Parties priorities, the Convention's Strategic Plan and the Regional Initiative of the Caribbean. This approach will allow an effective engagement and permanent back up of the political partners for a successful and efficient implementation of the project.</p> <p>Another important point of the project is the joint work of eight countries promoting international cooperation and sharing similar ecosystems' approaches in the adoption of harmonized management tools to support the conservation and wise use of their wetlands and Ramsar Sites.</p> <p>In the above context, more efficient and lasting results are expected in the interventions and assistance that will be provided aiming to a truly integrated and multi-faceted approach to the management of natural resources avoiding further loss and degradation of wetland and their ecosystem services in the SIDS.</p>
4.4.2 Ambition and transformative character	<p>By developing and implementing methodologies, training, monitoring programmes, and strategies that can be applied to all wetlands and sectors of society, countries will be able to take ownership of the implementation of these tools in their territories. Moreover, by providing platforms for knowledge exchange and for showcasing successful experiences and lessons learned at regional, national and local levels and involving all relevant stakeholders, countries will be empowered to show their actions and implement new ones. The awareness raising activities throughout the project will also help the different stakeholders to improve their knowledge of wetlands and value them as key ecosystems for conserving biodiversity, maintaining their livelihoods and increasing their resilience to climate change.</p>
4.4.3 Securing sustainability and multiplier effect after termination of funding	<p>It is expected that wetland benefits been incorporated into national policies and regulations and that the results of the vulnerability's assessment to climate change will empower the participating countries with elements to better cope with climate variability. The Caribbean Regional Initiative will do the follow up of the project making sure that the recommendations are implemented in all participating countries including the preparation of a financial plan for implementation and fundraising</p> <p>The assessments of the vulnerability of Ramsar Sites to climate change will provide examples that can be replicated in other Ramsar sites worldwide. Likewise, the implementation of ICZM, monitoring program and capacity building materials will be publicly available for use in other Ramsar Sites and can be replicated nationally and regionally. The outcomes of the project will be presented in the CBD COP and Ramsar COP13 through side events where the case studies will be presented.</p>
4.4.4 Visibility of the project	<p>The project will have a website where all information, products and follow up notes will be uploaded and updated regularly. The information on the website will be provided to Contracting Parties, the scientific community and the wider Ramsar community through the Ramsar mailing lists. Furthermore, the Convention's website, facebook and twitter accounts will also be used as platforms to provide information on the project and its activities. Each participating country will also provide links to the country website and information on the project in their own media platforms. Side</p>

	Events are also planned for Ramsar COP 13 in 2018, as well as the next COPs of the UNFCCC.
4.4.5 Mechanisms for the mobilisation of investments in climate protection and biodiversity measures	The implementation of the project will promote the involvement of different actors from public and private sectors. It is expected that at the end and as part of the recommendations for specific sectors (e.g. fisheries, tourism) they are committed with the implementation of the recommended measures. The countries taken part on the project will include the recommended actions in their financial and work plans as a mean to implement the Strategic Plan of the Ramsar Convention and Aichi Targets.

5 Interaction with international cooperation projects and other relevant aspects

5.1 Synergies with and links to other relevant projects and sectors (of German and international cooperation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme on integrated Adaptation Strategies in Grenada. The programme, Integrated Climate Change Adaptation Strategies (ICCAS), IKI project supports Grenada in enhancing the resilience of parts of the population and ecosystems that are particularly vulnerable to climate change. (contact person: Ms. Anna Steinschen (anna.steinschen@giz.de)). It is envisaged that exchange of information will take place to find areas where the results of this project can be included in the adaptation of the methodology for Grenada. Initial communications through email will be established to further discuss both projects and areas of possible cooperation. • Blue Solutions. Implementing the CBD Strategic Plan in the field of Marine and Coastal Biodiversity. This IKI project is related to the sustainable use and restoration of marine and coastal ecosystems and provides an information exchange platform. (contact person: Ms Ilona Porsché, ilona.porsche@giz.de). Initial communications through email will be established to further discuss both projects and areas of possible cooperation that may strengthen the dissemination of methodologies, results, and general information resulting from this project. • Climate Change Adaptation in the Caribbean: The EbA Facility. This facility is related to financing of climate change adaptation measures that incorporate biodiversity conservation and ecosystems management as part of adaptation strategies (contact person: Mr. Karim Ould, karim.ould-chih@kfw.de). Some areas are related to the goals of this project so there are possible areas of cooperation that can be explored. Initial communications through email will be established to further discuss these aspects. <p>The project will also explore synergies and cooperation with existing international cooperation efforts in the participating countries with multilateral organizations and development assistance agencies. Also collaboration will be sought with the Cartagena Convention, UNEP, UNDP, CARICOM (Caribbean Community Secretariat), the Association of Caribbean States and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean Sites and Global Water Partnership-Caribbean.</p>
5.2 Knowledge management in IKI projects	<p>The methodologies for each Work Package will be developed between the Ramsar Convention Secretariat and international experts and will be based on Ramsar methodologies which include the Ramsar CEPA program as well as CBD guidelines. Methodologies and information produced through this project will be available to the wider national communities of each participating country as well as to the wider Ramsar community. As the methodologies will apply and be tailored to the realities of small island states and will be in both English and Spanish, they could be used in many other countries around the world.</p> <p>Within the project, each work package has workshops directed at regional and national actors. These workshops are key to training, development of methodologies and sharing of the results and experiences. They provide a very important platform for knowledge exchange among wetland practitioners in the region and promote the implementation of the methodologies and successful experiences in other wetlands and countries.</p> <p>As part of the project methodologies will not only be developed but also applied by competent authorities at the national and local levels. This is a hands-on learning and capacity development experience for all the countries involved. At the end of</p>

	<p>the project they will have the tools to continue using the materials and implementing the methodologies in the future.</p> <p>As each country will gather data, for example on the monitoring mechanism or the revision of policies and legislation, they will each be responsible for storing and making available this information in their own national databases and platforms.</p> <p>Furthermore, virtual meetings with relevant actors are scheduled on a regular basis as follow up of each activity within the project.</p> <p>The contact person for knowledge management will be the assigned head of project.</p>
<p>5.3 Notes on - own funds - external funding - third-party grants</p>	<p>Please break down the secured funds noted as 'own funds', 'external funding', 'third-party grants' under 1.1 and list how they are used.</p> <p>EUR 65,779 without any restriction to any budgetary position</p> <p>Are you expecting (other) third-party funding? If so, by whom and how much?</p> <p>No</p>
<p>5.4 Other aspects relevant to funding</p>	<p>Please explain aspects that could not be described under section 1.1 to 5.3, but which are, nevertheless, of relevance for the approval of the project.</p> <p>All the 8 participant countries have committed to provide in-kind contributions for the project implementation (support logistic components in each country e.g telephone-internet, office supplies, travel, and equipment), technical staff and experts according to the needs which are required for the project (see endorsement letters).</p>

Annex 1:

Implementing partner(s) / Subcontractor(s)		
<p>IHE-Delft Institute for Water Education in the Netherlands, Charles Sturt University in Australia and the Panama Regional Center for Training and Capacity Building in the Western Hemisphere, have been chosen as subcontractors taking in consideration the specific and qualified knowledge that is required for the project in areas of wetlands-climate change and capacity building. The above three organizations have extensive experience in these particular areas and therefore will be able to provide the service/work that are required for the implementation of the project.</p> <p>Other subcontractors will be Neurones Technology S.A who will develop the web site for the project and Claro communications that will provide the telephone and internet services.</p>		
1. Implementing partner / Subcontractor	<input type="checkbox"/> Implementing partner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subcontractor	Name IHE-Delft Institute for Water Education Department Water Science and Engineering - Aquatic Ecosystems Group Additional address Westvest 7 Street Nr. P.O. Box 3015 Postal code, town/city 2601 DA Delft Country The Netherlands Institution University/Research Institute Website http://www.un-ihe.org Legal structure Foundation under Dutch Law Non-profit status: X yes <input type="checkbox"/> no Contact person Dr. Anne van Dam Telephone number +31152151828 Email address a.vandam@un-ihe.org Total staff 218 Staff for the project 2 Year established 1957 Turnover [EUR/year] 41,422,000 EUR Experience in the target region [years] 35 Experience in activities relevant to the project [years] 30
2. Implementing partner / Subcontractor	<input type="checkbox"/> Implementing partner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subcontractor	Name Charles Sturt University Department Institute for Land Water and Society Additional address Boorooma Street Street Nr. Postal code, town/city NW 2678, Wagga Wagga Country Australia Institution University/Research Institute Website www.csu.edu.au/research

	<p>Legal structure Statutory authority</p> <p>Non-profit status: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no</p> <p>Contact person Dr. Max Finlayson Max</p> <p>Telephone number (61) 2 6933 2578</p> <p>Email address mfinlayson@csu.edu.au</p> <p>Total staff 2,048 (as of 2015 annual report)</p> <p>Staff for the project 1</p> <p>Year established 1989</p> <p>Turnover [EUR/year] 347,480,000 (A\$511,000,000)</p> <p>Experience in the target re- gion [years] 5 years</p> <p>Experience in activities rele- vant to the project [years] 35 years</p>
<p>3. Implementing part- ner / Subcontractor</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Implementing partner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subcontractor</p> <p>Name Centro Regional Para el Hemisferio Occidental (CREHO)</p> <p>Department</p> <p>Additional address Ciudad del Saber</p> <p>Street Nr. Casa 131A</p> <p>Postal code, town/city 0816-03847 (83-0152) Panama City</p> <p>Country Panama</p> <p>Institution</p> <p>Website http://www.creho.org/</p> <p>Legal structure</p> <p>Non-profit status: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no</p> <p>Contact person Ms Rebecca Magaña</p> <p>Telephone number (507) 317 1242</p> <p>Email address creho@creho.org</p> <p>Total staff 3</p> <p>Staff for the project 2</p> <p>Year established 2004</p> <p>Turnover [EUR/year] 50, 031</p> <p>Experience in the target re- gion [years] 13 years</p> <p>Experience in activities rele- vant to the project [years] 13 years</p>
<p>4. Implementing part- ner / Subcontractor</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Implementing partner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subcontractor</p> <p>Name Neuronas Technology S.A</p> <p>Department</p> <p>Additional address</p> <p>Street Nr. Quai du Seujet 18,</p> <p>Postal code, town/city 1201 Genève</p>

	<p>Country Switzerland</p> <p>Institution</p> <p>Website http://www.neurones.pro/</p> <p>Legal structure</p> <p>Non-profit status: <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no</p> <p>Contact person Raphaël Bernard</p> <p>Telephone number +41 (0) 26 460 89 89</p> <p>Email address r.bernard@neurones.pro</p> <p>Total staff</p> <p>Staff for the project 1</p> <p>Year established 2008</p> <p>Turnover [EUR/year]</p> <p>Experience in the target region [years]</p> <p>Experience in activities relevant to the project [years] 10</p>
5. Implementing partner / Subcontractor	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Implementing partner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subcontractor</p> <p>Name Claro telecommunications/codetel</p> <p>Department</p> <p>Additional address</p> <p>Street Nr. Av. John F. Kennedy #54, Av. John F. Kennedy 54, Santo Domingo, República Dominicana</p> <p>Country Dominican Republic</p> <p>Institution</p> <p>Website http://www.claro.com.do/negocios/soluciones/soluciones-integrales/</p> <p>Legal structure</p> <p>Non-profit status: <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no</p> <p>Contact person Luisa Santana De La Cruz</p> <p>Telephone number 809-220-1212</p> <p>Email address luisa_santana@claro.com.do (client service)</p> <p>Total staff</p> <p>Staff for the project</p> <p>Year established 1932</p> <p>Turnover [EUR/year]</p> <p>Experience in the target region [years] + 20 years</p> <p>Experience in activities relevant to the project [years] + 20 years</p>

Political partners in the implementing country		
Implementing country 1	1 st Political partner Department Additional address Street Nr. Postal code, town/city Country Website Contact person Telephone number Email address	Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Marine Resources & Agro Industry Point Wharf Fisheries Complex St. John's Antigua and Barbuda http://www.ab.gov.ag/detail_page.php?page=17 Mr Philmore James +1 268 462 1266 fisheriesantigua@gmail.com
Implementing country 2	1 st Political partner Department Additional address Street Nr. Postal code, town/city Country Website Contact person Telephone number Email address	Ministry of Forestry Fisheries and Sustainable Development 2nd Floor West Block Building Independence Plaza Belmopan Belize http://www.doe.gov.bz/ Mr Wilber Sabido +501 802 3169 cfo@forest.gov.bz
Implementing country 3	1 st Political partner Department Additional address Street Nr. Postal code, town/city Country Website Contact person Telephone number Email address	Ministry of Science, Technology and the Environment Calle Línea No 8, entre N y O, Plaza de la Revolución Habana Cuba http://www.citma.gob.cu/ Mr Enrique Moret Mr. Pedro Ruíz +5372144256 emoret@citma.gob.cu pruiz@citma.gob.cu
Implementing country 4	1 st Political partner Department	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources

	<p>Additional address Ave. Calletano Germosén, Esq. Ave. Gregorio Luperón</p> <p>Street Nr.</p> <p>Postal code, town/city El Pedregal, Distrito Nacional</p> <p>Country Dominican Republic</p> <p>Website http://ambiente.gob.do/</p> <p>Contact person Mr José Manuel Mateo Felíz</p> <p>Telephone number +1 809 567 4300 (ext.638)</p> <p>Email address jose.mateo@ambiente.gob.do</p>
Implementing country 5	<p>1st Political partner Ministry of Agriculture Lands, Forestry, Fisheries and Environment</p> <p>Department</p> <p>Additional address Botanical Complex</p> <p>Street Nr.</p> <p>Postal code, town/city</p> <p>Country Grenada</p> <p>Website http://www.gov.gd/ministries/agriculture.html</p> <p>Contact person Mr Gordon Paterson</p> <p>Telephone number +1 473 440 2934</p> <p>Email address massaiman2004@yahoo.com</p>
Implementing country 6	<p>1st Political partner National Environment Planning Agency</p> <p>Department</p> <p>Additional address</p> <p>Street Nr. 10 Caledonia Avenue</p> <p>Postal code, town/city Kingston 5</p> <p>Country Jamaica</p> <p>Website http://nepa.gov.jm/</p> <p>Contact person Mr. Anthony Mckenzie</p> <p>Ms Monique Curtis</p> <p>Telephone number +1 876 754 7540 (ext. 2218)</p> <p>Email address AMcKenzie@nepa.gov.jm monique.curtis@nepa.gov.jm</p>
Implementing country 7	<p>1st Political partner Ministry of Sustainable Development, Energy Science and Technology</p> <p>Department</p> <p>Additional address Norman Francis Building Union</p> <p>Street Nr.</p> <p>Postal code, town/city Castries</p> <p>Country Saint Lucia</p> <p>Website http://sustainabledevelopment.govt.lc/</p> <p>Contact person Ms Rebecka Rock</p> <p>Telephone number +758 468 5656</p>

	Email address	rebecca.rock@govt.lc
Implementing country 8	1 st Political partner	Suriname Forest Service
	Department	
	Additional address	Cornelis Jongbawstraat 10-14
	Street Nr.	
	Postal code, town/city	P.O. Box 436, Panamaribo
	Country	Suriname
	Website	http://www.gov.sr/ministerie-van-rgb.aspx
	Contact person	Ms. Claudine Sakimin
	Telephone number	+597 479 431
	Email address	claudinesakimin@yahoo.com

Annex 2: Gantt chart on the project schedule (attached as a separate document)

Annex 3: Expenditure and financing (attached as a separate document)

Annex 4: Application of GCF Standards under the International Climate Initiative

<p>IKI project implementing organisations are expected to apply the GCF Safeguard System (interim IFC Performance Standards).</p> <p>Please elaborate on potential environmental and social risks, which could be caused by project activities or project-related activities. The overall suggested risk category should be based on a screening of all Performance Standards in conjunction with planned measures to avoid and mitigate the risks. The identification of risky activities according to several Performance Standards may still result in an overall low risk categorisation (C), if the risks are not significant and/or appropriate measures to prevent and mitigate potential risks are included in the project concept.</p> <p><u>“Significance”</u> should be determined based on the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Scale/Intensity – How big will the negative impact be?</i> - <i>Reversibility – Can the situation be restored, if/when negative impacts occur?</i> - <i>Duration - How long will the risk be present? (could be part of Scale)</i> - <i>Frequency – How often will the activity that creates the risk or impact occur? (could be part of Scale)</i> - <i>Manageability – Can the risk be managed?</i> <p>Application of GCF Safeguards will provide both IKI implementing organisations and BMU/IKI Programme Office with a tool to holistically monitor potential environmental and social impacts of IKI projects and guarantee high quality project implementation. Guiding questions provide orientation on the respective performance standards, without being comprehensive. For comprehensive guidance about the application of safeguards, which ought to be considered when assessing potential risks, please refer to the IFC documentation.</p>	
<p>A) PS 2 – Labor and Working Conditions</p>	<p>Guiding question: Can project activities possibly cause harm to workers?</p> <p>Potential risky activities (including contributing factors such as location, associated activities)</p>

	Significance of Risk
B) PS 3 – Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention	<p>Guiding question: Are project activities consistent with Good International Industry Practice (GIIP), i.e. employ the most appropriate technologies in the project-specific circumstances?</p> <p>Potential risky activities (including contributing factors such as location, associated activities)</p> <p>It is not expected that the project undertake activities that cause pollution on any harm to natural resources and the environment.</p> <p>Significance of Risk Low</p>
C) PS 4 – Community Health, Safety, and Security	<p>Guiding question: Will human rights as expressed in international and regional human rights treaties be safeguarded?</p> <p>Potential risky activities (including contributing factors such as location, associated activities)</p> <p>All activities under the project will be implementing respecting the international and regional rights treaties</p> <p>Significance of Risk Low</p>
D) PS 5 – Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement	<p>Guiding question: Does the project anticipate and avoid and, where avoidance is not possible, minimize adverse social and economic impacts from land acquisition or restrictions on land use?</p> <p>Please note: Projects including forced evictions are excluded from IKI funding!</p> <p>Potential risky activities (including contributing factors such as location, associated activities)</p> <p>There is not contemplated any activity under the project that is related to land acquisition.</p> <p>Significance of Risk No risk</p>
E) PS 6 – Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources	<p>Guiding question: Will project activities potentially lead to degradation or conversion of habitat? Will invasive species possibly be introduced?</p> <p>Potential risky activities (including contributing factors such as location, associated activities)</p> <p>There is not contemplated any activity under the project that leads to degradation or conversion of habitat or introduction of species</p> <p>Significance of Risk No risk</p>
F) PS 7 – Indigenous Peoples	<p>Guiding question: Will the project potentially cause adverse effects on the rights, access or use of lands or resources by indigenous peoples or marginalized local communities?</p> <p>Potential risky activities (including contributing factors such as location, associated activities)</p> <p>The activities under the project won't have adverse effects on the rights, access or use of lands or resources by indigenous peoples or marginalized local communities. However, the implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management and Maritime Spatial Planning in 8 Ramsar Sites (activity A.II.4) will influence a better use of Ramsar Sites by the local communities. They will participate and gain new</p>

	<p>skills and knowledge that they can then apply in their respective communities particularly through WP III.</p> <p>Significance of Risk No risk</p>
G) PS 8 – Cultural Heritage	<p>Guiding question: Could project activities potentially have adverse impacts on cultural heritage? Does the project promote the equitable sharing of cultural heritage benefits?</p> <p>Potential risky activities (including contributing factors such as location, associated activities) The activities of the project won't have any impact on cultural heritage</p> <p>Significance of Risk No risk</p>
Risk avoidance and mitigation strategy	<p>If risks have been identified above, please elaborate on your planned risk avoidance and mitigation strategy in relation to each relevant Performance Standard.</p>
Overall risk categorisation:	<p>Your overall risk categorisation should be based on a holistic screening of risks based on the Performance Standards and project-specific identification of risk avoidance and mitigation measures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>A – Activities with potential significant adverse environmental or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>B – Activities with potential limited adverse environmental or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally site-specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures.</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>C – Activities with minimal or no adverse environmental or social risks and/or impacts.</i>

Annex 5

Summary of the current status of 21 Caribbean Ramsar Sites and projects funded through Ramsar Small Grants Funds and activities of other donors.

Country	Site name	Management plan implemented	Management plan available	Ecosystem Services Assessment	Effective Management Assessment	Wetland Inventory	Projects Grants: Ramsar Wetland for the Future (WFF) and Small Grant Fund (SGF)	Activities of International Donors (General/Site level)
Antigua and Barbuda	Codrington Lagoon	No	In preparation	No	No	Yes	SGF/06/AG/1 Inventory of Wetlands: Antigua & Barbuda	Organization of American States (OAS, 2008): Special Multilateral Fund of the Inter-American Council for Integrated Development. Integrated Management Plan for Codrington Lagoon. GEF.2012. Implementing Integrated Land, Water & Wastewater Management in Caribbean SIDS
Belize	Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuary	No	In preparation	No	No	No	WFF/95-96BZ-1 Towards the wise use and conservation of the Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuary	Belize Audubon Society, protection and education in collaboration with GEF, and Japan International Cooperation Agency.
	Sarstoon Temash National Park	yes	yes	No	No	No	SGF/11/BZ/1. Reducing Deforestation in the Sarstoon Temash National Park and Bi-national Ramsar Site Collaboration between Maya Organizations in Belize & Guatemala	Organization of American States (OAS, 2001): Special Multilateral Fund of the Inter-American Council for Integrated Development. Developing Capacities for Sustainable Tourism in Communities Bordering the Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuary as an

								approach to promote effective co-management.
								Biological Diversity-Info. 2003. Rapid Ecological Assessment Sarstoon Temash National Park, Toledo District, Belize.
Cuba	Ciénaga de Zapata	No	No	No	No	No		Parks Italy helped with the preparation of the publication "Ciénaga de Zapata, Historia y Naturaleza" as UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.
	Ciénaga de Lanier y Sur de la Isla de la Juventud	No	In preparation	No	No			GEF.2012. Implementing Integrated Land, Water & Wastewater Management in Caribbean SIDS.
	Gran Humedal del Norte de Ciego de Ávila	No	No	No	No			
	Humedal Río Máximo-Cagüey	No	Yes	No	No			
	Humedal Delta del Cauto	No	Yes	No	No			
Dominican Republic	Lago Enriquillo	No	No	No	No	No	WFF/06/DO/1 "Capacity Building of communities of Lago Enriquillo for its conservation and sustainable use".	OAS 2001. Integrated Management of Marine Resources for Sustainable Development OAS 2003. Capacity building for the management of protected areas.
	Humedales de Jaragua	No	No	No	No			

	Parque Nacional Manglares del Bajo Yuna	No	In preparation	No	No			GEF.2012. Implementing Integrated Land, Water & Wastewater Management in Caribbean SIDS.
	Refugio de Vida Silvestre Laguna Cabral o Rincón	No	No	No	No			
Grenada	Levera Wetland	No	In preparation	No	No	No		GEF.2012. Implementing Integrated Land, Water & Wastewater Management in Caribbean SIDS
Jamaica	Mason River Protected Area	No	In preparation	No	No	No		GEF.2012. Implementing Integrated Land, Water & Wastewater Management in Caribbean SIDS
	Portland Bight Wetlands and Cays	Yes	Yes	No	No			
	Palisadoes - Port Royal	No	Yes	No	No			
	Black River Lower Morass	No	In preparation	No	No		SGF/98/JAM/1 Towards management of the Black River Morass (Ramsar site) - gathering biological, social and economic data (1)	
Saint Lucia	Savannes Bay	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	WFF/95/SL/ Management of wetland information support of public awareness and training in the insular Caribbean	GEF.2012. Implementing Integrated Land, Water & Wastewater Management in Caribbean SIDS

	Mankòtè Mangrove	Yes	Yes		No		WFF/97/SL Training in participatory and collaborative approaches to wetland management in the insular Caribbean	OAS 2001. Freshwater resource management in the Small Island Developing States.
							WFF/98/SL/ Capacity building in participatory wetland and forest management for the Trinidad and Tobago Forestry Division personnel, in St Lucia	OAS 2003. Coastal wetland ecosystem conservation and sustainable livelihoods.
							WFF/99/CA//Training resources for participatory and collaborative natural resource management in the Caribbean	
							WFF/97/SL Training in participatory and collaborative approaches to wetland management in the insular Caribbean	
							WFF/2004/CA/Policies and institutions for wetlands management: Training for managers from the Insular Caribbean	
Suriname	Coppenamemonding Nature Reserve	No	In preparation	No	No	No	WFF/13/SR/1 Aerial Survey Training for Research staff of the Ministry of Physical Planning, Land and Forest Management (RGB) to undertake baseline surveys, analysis and reporting of wetland flora and fauna	GEF.2012. Implementing Integrated Land, Water & Wastewater Management in Caribbean SIDS

							WFF/98/SUR/Training of Wildlife Officers in wetland management practices in Trinidad	WHSRN (Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network) completed a Site Assessment Tool in 2014.
							WFF/00/SUR/Training of Wildlife Officers in wetland management practices in Trinidad	
							WFF/97/SUR/Creation of a mobile environmental education and public awareness lecture series/slide-film-video program	