

EC Action Document – Annex I: Strengthening of the Caribbean Biological Corridor **Phase II**

This project is submitted to UN Environment /Project Review Committee (PRC) using the EC Action Document Annex II template. 21 08 20

Based on the document “**Comparison of project outline between UN Environment ProDoc and “EC Action Document – Annex II”**” (attached for ease of reference), the EC Action Document also includes those sections of UN Environment ProDoc template that are not included in the EC Action Document.

These additional sections include the following:

Table of contents

Signatures

Acronyms and abbreviations

Project overview

Project duration and budget summary

Table 1: Project Information

1.1 Table 2: Project Duration

1.1.1 Table 3: Budget Summary

Project overview / Theory of change

Project relevance

Project sustainability

Project cost effectiveness and communication strategy

Project work plan

List of Annexes

Annex 1. Logframe

Annex 2. Budget

Annex 3. Proof of secured funds

Annex 4. Main steps in project design process

Annex 5. Draft donor agreement

Annex 6. Environmental and social safeguards

Annex 7. ESERN checklist



EN

ANNEX 2

of the Commission Decision on the Annual Action Programme 2016 in favour of the Caribbean Region to be financed from the 11th European Development Fund

1 ACTION DOCUMENT AND SUMMARY

Action Document for Strengthening of the Caribbean Biological Corridor

1. Title/basic act/ CRIS number	Strengthening of the Caribbean Biological Corridor CRIS number: 2016/039-416 financed from the European Development Fund			
2. Zone benefiting from the action/location	Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti			
3. Programming document	Caribbean Regional Indicative Programme - 11 th European Development Fund (EDF)			
4. Sector of concentration/ thematic area	Focal Area 2 Climate Change, Disaster Management, Environment and Sustainable Energy	DEV. Aid: YES		
5. Amounts concerned	Total estimated cost: EUR 3.480.000 Total amount of EDF contribution EUR 3.480.000			
6. Aid modality and implementation modality	Project Modality Financing agreement with the Dominican government, followed by Indirect management with United Nations Environment Programme			
7 a) DAC code(s)	41010 - Environmental policy and administrative management			
b) Main Delivery Channel	United Nations Environment Programme - 41116			
8. Markers (from CRIS DAC form)	General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality (including Women In Development)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Trade Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, Maternal, New born and child health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>


	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
	Biological diversity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	■
	Combat desertification	■	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation	■	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation	<input type="checkbox"/>	■	21 08 20 <input type="checkbox"/>
9. Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC) thematic flagships	Biodiversity for Life Initiative (B4LIFE) - An ecosystem-based approach economic growth, climate change mitigation and adaptation, food security and good governance			

SUMMARY

This project to strengthen the Caribbean Biological Corridor (CBC) seeks to build a strong and sustained collective, institutionalised regional approach to the conservation, management and governance of terrestrial and marine biodiversity in the Caribbean Islands hotspot, focusing initially on Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic, with a progressive and well-structured expansion to other countries and territories. It will build and demonstrate significant positive linkages between conservation, connectivity, livelihoods and poverty reduction through selected field activities and a targeted communication programme. It will deliver a sustainable and integrated knowledge management system on biodiversity and biological connectivity, joint and harmonised policies and instruments, adequate and compatible capacity among participating countries and institutions, as well as sustained cooperation mechanisms between countries and institutions at political, scientific, technical and civil society levels. Selected field actions in this project will help raise awareness of the Caribbean Biological Corridor, while alliances with programmes and stakeholders engaged in broader field actions will support achievement of the objectives of the Caribbean Biological Corridor.

This proposed action is highly relevant to regional, national or sub-national conservation strategies, and to the priority conservation and sustainable development needs of the participating countries and of the Caribbean region as a whole. This action will build on the recognised results of a first project of demarcation of the Caribbean Biological Corridor, which has notably established the collaboration mechanisms between countries and stakeholders, and set up an operational structure for the Caribbean Biological Corridor. In continuity with this first project, it will be implemented in indirect management with the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) and in close collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of the Dominican Republic; the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Haiti and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment of Cuba, who have actively participated in the identification of this proposal and who have agreed to provide substantive technical and financial support to the project on an ongoing basis. Civil society organisations, academic institutions and the private sector will also participate in, contribute to and benefit from the project.

2 SIGNATURES

SIGNATURES	
Head of Branch managing the Project:	Signature Leo Heileman, Director and Regional Representative  Date: <u>21</u> / <u>08</u> / <u>2020</u>

3 ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

B4LIFE	Biodiversity for Life Initiative
CAR-RCU	Caribbean Environment Programme - Regional Coordinating Unit
CASEC	<i>Conseil d'Administration de la Section Communale</i>
CBC	Caribbean Biological Corridor
CEP	Caribbean Environment Programme
CIAT	Inter-ministerial Committee for Land Use Planning
CLME+	Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project
CRIP	Caribbean Regional Indicative Programme
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CEDAF	<i>Centro para el Desarrollo Agropecuario y Forestal</i>
CEPF	Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund
CITMA	<i>Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología y Medio Ambiente de Cuba</i>
CMS	Convention on Migratory Species
DIGECOM	Dirección General de Cooperación Multilateral del Ministerio de Economía, Planificación y Desarrollo de República Dominicana
DR	Dominican Republic
EU	European Union
EDF	European Development Fund
GIZ	<i>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit</i>
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
MARN	<i>Ministerio del Ambiente y Recursos Naturales de República Dominicana</i>
MDE	<i>Ministère de l'Environnement Haïti</i>
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
OLAC	Latin American and Caribbean Office
RAC	Regional Activity Centre
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SPAW	Protocol on Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
ToC	Theory of Change
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UN Environment	United Nations Environment Programme
USD	United States dollar
WHH	Welthungerlife

Previous CBC projects supported by the European Union

CBC Phase I	Demarcation and Establishment of the Caribbean Biological Corridor (CBC): as a Framework for Biodiversity Conservation, Environmental Rehabilitation and Development of Livelihood Options in Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Cuba, 2010-2014
CBC Transition Phase	Project on strengthening biodiversity planning capacities of the Ministry of the Environment of the Dominican Republic, with a regional focus and in the framework of the Caribbean Biological Corridor Initiative, 2015-2016

Table of contents

1	Action document and summary.....	2
2	Signatures	4
3	Acronyms and abbreviations	5
4	Table of contents	6
5	Project duration and budget summary.....	7
5.1	Table 2: Project Information.....	7
5.2	Table 2: Project Duration	9
5.2.1	Table 3: Budget Summary (EUROS).....	9
6	Context	11
6.1	Regional and thematic context	11
6.1.1	Public Policy Assessment and EU Policy Framework.....	12
6.1.2	Stakeholder analysis	13
6.1.3	Priority areas for support/problem analysis	14
7	Theory of Change.....	18
8	Risks and Assumptions	19
9	Lessons Learnt, Complementarity and Cross-Cutting Issues.....	20
9.1	Lessons learnt	20
9.2	Complementarity, synergy and donor coordination	22
9.3	Cross-Cutting Issues	23
10	Description of the Action	24
10.1	Objectives/results and options	24
10.2	Main activities.....	26
10.3	Intervention Logic.....	28
10.4	Sustainability.....	31
10.5	Replication	32
11	Implementacion	32
11.1	Financing agreement.....	32
11.2	Indicative implementation period	32
11.3	Implementation modalities.....	32
11.3.1	Indirect management with an international organisation	32
11.4	Indicative budget.....	33
11.5	Cost-effectiveness	34
11.6	Organizational set-up and responsibilities	34
11.7	Performance Monitoring and Reporting	36
11.8	Evaluation	36
11.9	Audit	37
11.10	Communication and Visibility.....	37
12	ANNEX 1: Logical Framework – UN Environment FORMAT (includes milestones)...	39
	Annex 2. Budget – See separate document	49
	Annex 3. Proof of secured funds.....	49
	Annex 4. Main steps in project design process	49
	Annex 5. Draft donor agreements – See separate document.....	50
	Annex 6. Environmental and social safeguards	50
	Annex 7. UN Environment’s Social and Environmental Checklist	51

4 PROJECT DURATION AND BUDGET SUMMARY

4.1 Table 2: Project Information

Identification	<i>PIMS no.:</i> 01975 <i>Umoja no.:</i> SB-008289				
Project Number + Project Title	Project number (to be assigned): Project title: Strengthening of the Caribbean Biological Corridor			PoW 2016-2017; 2018-2019; 2020-2021	
Division Director managing project	Law Division				
Project Manager and Org. Unit/Division or Region ¹	Andrea Brusco	P4	Law Division/ Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC)	UNA	5%
	Mónica Borrero	IC	Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC)	EF/XB	80%
Name of Supervisor of UN Environment Project Manager	Leo Heileman, Director and Regional Director, UN Environment/ Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC)				
Name of person(s) who drafted the ProDoc	Isabel Martinez	P4	Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC)		
Name of Fund Manager	ROLAC/FMO: Maria Carolina Chiapara Headquarters/FMO: Giba Koroma				
Type/Location	Sub-regional				
Region (<i>delete as appropriate</i>)	Latin America and Caribbean				
Names of Countries ²	Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic				
Programme of Work	PoW 2016-2017; PoW 2018-2019; PoW 2020-2021				
Subprogramme (s)	Environmental Governance (EG, main); also Ecosystem Management (EM)				
PoW Expected Accomplishment (s)	<p>PoW 2016-2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Governance; EA (b): The capacity of countries to develop and enforce laws and strengthen institutions to achieve internationally agreed environmental objectives and goals and comply with related obligations is enhanced Ecosystem management, EA (c): Services and benefits derived from ecosystems are integrated with development planning and accounting, and the implementation of biodiversity and ecosystem related multilateral environmental agreements <p>PoW 2018-2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Governance; EA (a): The international community increasingly converges on common and integrated approaches to achieve environmental objectives and implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Ecosystem management; EA (a): The health and productivity of marine and terrestrial ecosystems are institutionalized in education, monitoring and cross-sector and transboundary collaboration frameworks at country and international level. Ecosystem management; EA (b): Legislators from the public and private sectors test the inclusion of health and the productivity of ecosystems in economic decision-making. 				

¹ Projects can only have one accountable project manager

² Countries must be identified when submitting ProDoc to PRC

	<p>PoW 2020-2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Governance; EA (a): The international community increasingly converges on common and integrated approaches to achieve environmental objectives and implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. • Healthy and Productive Ecosystems; EA (a): The health and productivity of marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems are institutionalized in education, monitoring and cross-sectoral and transboundary collaboration frameworks at the national and international levels. • Healthy and Productive Ecosystems; EA (b): Policymakers in the public and private sectors test and consider the inclusion of the health and productivity of ecosystems in economic decision-making.
<p>Indicator of the EA(s) to which the project contributes to</p>	<p>PoW 2016-2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Governance; EA (b). • Indicator (i): Increased number of legal and institutional measures taken by countries to enforce the rule of law and improve the implementation of internationally agreed environmental goals and targets, with the assistance of the United Nations Environment Program. • Indicator (ii): Increase in number of countries that undertake a review of, and adopt recommendations for, enhanced compliance with, and enforcement of, international environmental obligations with the assistance of UN Environment upon the request of the countries. • Indicator (iii): Increase in the number of initiatives and associations of the main groups and stakeholders in support of the development and application of national and international environmental legislation, with the assistance of the United Nations Environment Program. • Ecosystem management; EA (c). • Indicator (ii): Percentage of countries that have with the assistance of UN Environment revised at least one of their environmental policy frameworks and one of their development plans to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services. <p>PoW 2018-2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Governance; EA (a). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Indicator (i). Increase in the number of United Nations entities, international organizations and fora that integrate environmental policy issues or approaches that emerge from the United Nations environmental policy advice in policy documents, strategies for sustainable development plans. ○ Indicator (ii). Increased adoption of approaches for the coherent implementation of multiple multilateral environmental agreements or other multilateral institutional mechanisms as a result of United Nations support for the environment. ○ Indicator (iii). Increase in concerted policy action taken by countries on environmental issues of international concern. • Ecosystem management, EA (a). • Gestión de ecosistemas; EA (a): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Indicator (i). Increase in the number of countries and transboundary collaboration frameworks that have advanced to monitor and maintain the health and productivity of marine and terrestrial ecosystems. ○ Indicator (ii). Increase in the number of countries and cross-border collaboration frameworks that demonstrate greater knowledge of the value and function of ecosystem services. ○ Indicator (iii). Increase in the number of countries and/or groups of countries which improved their cross-sector and/or transboundary collaboration frameworks for marine and terrestrial ecosystem management. ○ Indicator (iv). Increase in the number of educational institutions that integrate the ecosystem approach in the educational framework. • Environmental Management; EA (b): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Indicator (i). Increase the number of public sector institutions that test the incorporation of health and productivity of marine and terrestrial ecosystems in economic decision making. <p>PoW 2020-2021:</p> <p>Environmental Governance; EA (a):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (i) Uptake by United Nations entities, international organizations and forums of environmental policy issues or approaches emerging from UNEP policy advice. • (ii) Uptake of approaches for the coherent implementation of multilateral environmental agreements

	<p>or other multilateral institutional mechanisms as a result of UNEP support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (iii) Concerted policy action taken by countries on environmental issues of international concern as a result of UNEP support. <p>Healthy and Productive Ecosystems; EA (a):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (i) The number of countries and transboundary collaboration frameworks that have made progress in monitoring and maintaining the health and productivity of marine and terrestrial ecosystems with the assistance of UNEP. • (ii) The number of countries and transboundary collaboration frameworks that demonstrate enhanced knowledge of the value and role of ecosystem services with the assistance of UNEP. • (iii) The number of countries and groups of countries that improve their cross-sectoral and transboundary collaboration frameworks for marine and terrestrial ecosystem management with the assistance of UNEP. • (iv) The number of education institutions that integrate the ecosystem approach into education frameworks with the assistance of UNEP. <p>Healthy and Productive Ecosystems; EA (b):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (i) The number of public-sector institutions that test and consider the inclusion of the health and productivity of marine and terrestrial ecosystems in economic decision-making with the assistance of UNEP.
PoW Outputs	<p>PoW 2016-2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Governance; EA (b). Output 2. Legal technical assistance provided to support initiatives by countries to implement, monitor and achieve compliance with, and enforcement of, international environmental obligations, including those set out in multilateral environmental agreements. • Ecosystem management; EA (c). Output 5. Synergies between tools, approaches and multilateral obligations for biodiversity related MEAs are increasingly integrated with sub-national, national and regional development agendas, strategic investments and partnerships. <p>PoW 2018-2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Governance; EA (a). Output 5. Technical support to cooperation frameworks for the management of transboundary natural resources and intergovernmental processes that regulate international environmental issues. • Ecosystem Management; EA (a): Output 2. Technical assistance and partnerships on effective conservation measures and monitoring thereof (ecosystem management, ecological representativeness and connectivity). • Ecosystem Management; EA (b). Output 4. Support the private sector entities to pilot the inclusion of considerations on the ecosystems health and the availability of resources in economic decision-making. <p>PoW 2020-2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Governance; EA (a). Output 6. Technical support to cooperation frameworks for the management of transboundary natural resources and intergovernmental processes that regulate international environmental issues. • Healthy and Productive Ecosystems; EA (a): Output 2. Technical assistance and partnerships on effective conservation measures and monitoring thereof (ecosystem management, ecological representativeness and connectivity). • Healthy and Productive Ecosystems; EA (b). Output 1. Support to public institutions to pilot the inclusion of ecosystem health and resource availability considerations in economic decision-making. Output 4. Support to private-sector entities to pilot the inclusion of ecosystem health and resource availability considerations in economic decision-making.
Link to relevant SDG Goals, target(s) and SDG indicator(s) ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDG 13 (Targets 13.1 and 13.2) • SDG 14 (Targets 14.2, 14.4, 14.5 and 14.7) • SDG 15 (Targets 15.1, 15.2, 15.3 and 15.5)

³ http://www.unep.org/pdf/UNEP_and_the_2030_Agenda.pdf

Other Divisions/Regional Offices involved	
This project will be delivered directly by UN Environment/Latin American and Caribbean Office.	
Name of External Executing Partners	Other than the ministries of the environment of Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic, a comprehensive mapping and capacity analysis of relevant institutions and partners will be part of the project, so as to identify and promote multi-stakeholder alliances in favour of sustainable biodiversity management (this was requested by the ministries during the formulation of the project; also agree with the donor)

4.2 Table 2: Project Duration

Total duration in months: 66 months	Expected start and end date ⁴ : 21 July 2017- 20 January 2023	Project actual start and end date ⁵ : 21 July 2017- 20 January 2023
Expected Mid-term review or evaluation date (if project spans over more than one biennium)	Mid-term review date: Last quarter 2019 Final/terminal evaluation date: Last quarter 2022 ⁶	Mid-term review date: Last quarter 2019 (October 2019) Final/terminal evaluation date: Last quarter 2022 (October 2022)

4.2.1 Table 3: Budget Summary⁷ (EUROS)

TYPE OF FUNDING	SOURCE OF FUNDING	Details	Year 1	Year 2 ⁸	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total	
CASH	Environment Fund activity budget	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
	Regular Budget activity budget	N/A						N/A	
	Extra budgetary Funding (posts + non-post+PMC)	Secured (Donor 1) European Commission							3,480,000.00
		<u>Unsecured XB funding</u>							N/A
		PSC on Secured funds ⁹							227,663.55
		XB Sub-total							3,480,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL							3,480,000.00	
IN-KIND									

⁴ Tentative start date to be entered by project manager/proponent

⁵ Managed by QAS. Project actual start date is the date of project approval by DED (month/year)

⁶ Terminal evaluation must commence at least 6 months before project end date

⁷ The summary table can be extracted directly from the excel budget sheet accessible in the UNEP intranet Quality Assurance Section (QAS) (Umoja_budget_template_July 2015). The detailed project budget is to be presented as Annex B.

⁸ Number of years/columns will be defined by the project extension/ budget template

⁹ Rows to be added to reflect different PSC

	Other (include name of donor)							
	SUB-TOTAL							
TOTAL PROJECT PLANNED BUDGET (without EF & RB posts)								
In Kind EF & RB Posts	Environment Fund post costs	P4 (60%)	117,000.00	117,000.00	117,000.00	117,000.00	58,500.00	526,000.00
	Regular Budget post costs (*)							
TOTAL PROJECT PLANNED BUDGET								
	Funding secured				%			3,480,000.00
	Allocation to Regional Offices							3,480,000.00

(*) Regional subprogramme coordinators on Environmental Governance and Ecosystem Management (Andrea Brusco –UNA budget– and Alberto Pacheco –RB–, respectively). They will be involved in a general manner, as part of their support to the Latin America and Caribbean Office’s projects and activities aside from their own portfolio of projects. Andrea Brusco’s engagement will be higher since this project falls primarily under the Environmental Governance portfolio which implies a higher burden in terms of internal accountability and reporting. Same applies to ROLAC Regional Director who is expected to participate in the Ministerial Committee meetings and to provide general corporate and political advice as necessary.

Regional budget							
	Office for Latin America and the Caribbean						3.480.000
Divisional budget	DEWA	N/A					
	DEPI	N/A					
	DELC	N/A					
	DCPI	N/A					
	DTIE	N/A					

5 Context

5.1 Regional and thematic context

This action focuses on biodiversity, and more specifically on the regional and inter-island linkages between ecosystems and habitats in the Caribbean, which constitute one of the world's 35 biodiversity hotspots¹⁰, with an initial focus on the Greater¹¹ Antilles. It recognises that this biodiversity is often impacted negatively by human activity, settlements and economic sectors (e.g. mining, agriculture, fisheries or tourism), with unsustainable patterns of natural resource use rooted in history and exacerbated by climate change and current development trends. The fragmentation, the relatively small size of Caribbean countries and the development value of shared ecosystems and stocks of commercial species make regional cooperation indispensable for the success of biodiversity conservation and sustainable development efforts.

This proposed action understands that biodiversity conservation is a development imperative, because of the inherent value and cultural significance of species and ecosystems, but also because of their past, current and potential contribution to social and economic development, particularly in agriculture, fisheries and tourism, which are essential economic sectors for the Caribbean. It further recognises the important contribution of biodiversity to livelihoods, sustainable development. Conservation of healthy ecosystems is also essential for adaptation to climate change, and reduction of vulnerability to related disasters.

Critical elements of context, which provide the rationale for this proposed action, include:

- there are important gaps in the knowledge of biodiversity in the region, including in species distribution and migration patterns, impacts of climate change on species and ecosystems, and the potential contribution of ecosystems to disaster risk reduction and adaptation to climate change;
- there is also a great political, policy and institutional diversity in the region, weak cooperation mechanisms, and language barriers;
- there are significant capacity issues, with uneven capacities between countries, these capacity issues should be turned into opportunities, as countries have complementary skills that can be shared through networking and South-South cooperation. In particular, Cuba has scientific expertise and experience in environmental management that have proven very useful to Haiti and to the Caribbean;
- environmental protection and human development needs in Haiti are particularly critical and urgent: all indicators point to the fact that any regional initiative concerned with environment and development in this region should consider Haiti as a priority and facilitate south-south cooperation and Haiti's full integration in the region;
- the dominant approach to conservation in the region is mainly locally based (i.e. at national and community level), with insufficient attention given to global and regional priorities and targets, the management of large ecosystems and shared stocks, and the maintenance of connectivity between ecosystems and habitats), and with the lack of an integrated approach and monitoring at appropriate scales;
- the private sector is only marginally involved in environmental matters generally, and in

¹⁰ (<http://www.cepf.net/resources/hotspots/Pages/default.aspx>)

¹¹ Complementary actions involving additional member countries (specifically Puerto Rico and Jamaica) will be supported through other partnerships. The inclusion of new member countries will follow a rigorous process that will involve a capacity assessment, an identification of ecosystems and sites to be considered within Caribbean Biological Corridor core areas, a detailed plan for inclusion in the knowledge management system, and an eventual revision of the demarcation of the Caribbean Biological Corridor.

biodiversity in particular. There are noticeable exceptions but the opportunities of and benefits from linking business and biodiversity in the Caribbean region are not yet fully mapped and translated into business practice. Considering the different development levels of private sector in the three countries, challenges for a more pro-active participation in biodiversity conservation differ notably. This sector is being developed in Cuba progressively in areas such as tourism and agriculture. In Haiti, community-based businesses and organisations have experience in local initiatives embracing environment and economic development; larger businesses particularly in the tourism sector have started recently. The Dominican Republic has a well-developed and growing private sector, notably in sectors which both rely and ² impact on natural ecosystems, such as agriculture, tourism, mining, etc. More generally, there is an urgent need to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem management as well as climate change adaptation in disaster risk reduction and resilience building strategies and actions at regional, national and community levels.

5.1.1 Public Policy Assessment and EU Policy Framework

The action is directly relevant to Focal Area 2 of the Caribbean Regional Indicative Programme (CRIP), which focuses on climate change and environment, and particularly to its specific objectives 1 (improve regional resilience to impacts of climate change and natural disasters affecting sustained economic and social development) and 2 (support regional capacity for the suitable use of natural resources). It is also relevant to Focal Area 1 and its specific objective 1 (to strengthen Caribbean regional cooperation and integration processes).

Consistent with the Caribbean Regional Indicative Programme, the action addresses the vulnerability of the Caribbean to external shocks and the benefits of regional cooperation. Moreover, given that effectiveness of regional programmes depends largely on implementation at national level, the action includes activities aimed at building capacity and facilitating networking among actors in governments, civil society and the private sector.

The action is also relevant to a number of other European Union and regional policy documents, including:

Joint Caribbean-EU Partnership Strategy: the Strategy seeks to promote policy dialogue on global challenges and on issues of common interest to the Caribbean and Europe, and biodiversity conservation is such a shared challenge, as spelled out in the European Union Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 and as expressed in Caribbean and European commitments to the Aichi Targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The preservation of biodiversity has been identified as one of six areas for cooperation between CARIFORUM and the European Union.

Five-year strategic plan for the Caribbean Community, 2015-2019: the Plan aims, among other things, at reducing vulnerability to disaster risk and the effects of climate change and to ensure effective management of the natural resources across Member States. Its specific strategies include the promotion of sustainable management of biodiversity, as well as the enhancement of regional capacity to address environmental and ocean governance issues beyond national jurisdiction. This CARICOM Plan is particularly relevant in the perspective of progressive promotion of accession of other CARICOM countries to the Caribbean Biological Corridor Initiative.

The potential of this project largely lies in the ownership by the three countries of the Caribbean Biological Corridor Initiative, which the project seeks to consolidate. This endogenous Initiative,

signed in 2007¹² and ratified with an Inter-Ministerial Agreement in 2014¹³, formalises and provides a joint umbrella to the numerous collaboration efforts undertaken by the three countries to address jointly their biodiversity-related challenges. As from 2009, with support from the European Union and United Nations Environment Programme, it has consistently established the building blocks to ensure its operationalisation. The three governments recognise the Caribbean Biological Corridor Initiative as their main concertation mechanism, using it as a platform of broader relevance than mere project implementation issues. Other Caribbean countries and territories have expressed their interest in joining it. Puerto Rico formally became member in March 2016.

The Caribbean Biological Corridor as a regional biodiversity management strategy complements the national policies of the participating countries, notably Haiti's Plan d'Action pour l'Environnement and National System of Protected Areas, Cuba's National Environmental Strategy, National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) and its National System of Protected areas, and the Dominican Republic's National Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity and its Action Plan 2011 - 2020. The project will also contribute to the implementation of policies and strategies for sustainable development in the context of climate change, such as the Estrategia Nacional para Fortalecer los Recursos Humanos y las Habilidades para Avanzar hacia un Desarrollo Verde, con Bajas Emisiones y Resiliencia Climática of the Dominican Republic. The Caribbean Biological Corridor Initiative is also highly relevant to the national climate change strategies and plans of the three participating countries.

With respect to the relevance to UN Environment and the enhancement of the rule of law, the project falls primarily under the environmental governance subprogramme both in the Programme of Work (PoW) 2016-2017 and 2018-2019. The project also contributes to the ecosystem management and healthy and productive ecosystems subprogrammes of the PoW 2016-2017 and 2018-2019, respectively. Therefore the project will:

- Enhance the capacity of countries to develop and enforce laws and strengthen institutions to achieve internationally agreed environmental objectives and goals and comply with related obligations as well as to achieve environmental objectives and implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- Support the integration of services derived from ecosystems with development planning and the implementation of biodiversity and ecosystem related multilateral environmental agreements as well as the institutionalization of the health and of marine and terrestrial ecosystems are institutionalized in monitoring and cross-sector and transboundary collaboration frameworks at country and regional level.

5.1.2 Stakeholder analysis

The action will involve five main categories of stakeholders:

- Governments: Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment of Cuba; Ministry of the Environment of Haiti; Inter-ministerial Committee for Land Use Planning (CIAT) in Haiti; Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources of the Dominican Republic, as the agencies directly responsible for policy formulation, coordination and implementation in the

¹² <http://cbcnuma.org/es/content/la-iniciativa-corredor-biol%C3%B3gico-en-el-caribe-cbc>

¹³ <https://cbcreuniontm.wordpress.com/acuerdos-y-decisiones/>

field of biodiversity. Though all have different capacity reinforcement needs, they are all committed to strengthen the Caribbean Biological Corridor and will benefit from their participation in the action.

- Non-governmental organisations: civil society actors that have the capacity to execute specific activities while contributing effectively to the overall implementation of the action and providing bottom up contributions to the design and monitoring of biodiversity related policies, including those directly involved in the previous action.
- Scientific and academic institutions: research and training organisations that have specific experience and capacities relevant to the action, including university networks.
- Communities and community institutions in the sites where advice, technical assistance and fundraising support will be provided to biodiversity related projects executed by partner organisations. Their diverse sensitivities to biodiversity conservation and dependency on biodiversity resources will be taken into account and as much as possible turned into assets, by ensuring a participatory approach in designing field actions, and by associating their representatives to the relevant concertation mechanisms.
- The private sector, as potential pro-active stakeholders in integrating sustainable use of biodiversity in their business development plans, as partners of government agencies, communities or civil society organisations in activities aimed at promoting positive linkages between biodiversity, livelihoods and economic development; as potential sources of financial and technical resources in support of conservation; and as beneficiaries of outreach activities aimed at raising awareness of the synergies between biodiversity, business and economic development.

A comprehensive mapping and capacity analysis of relevant institutions and partners will be part of the project, in its inception phase, so as to identify and promote multi-stakeholder alliances in favour of sustainable biodiversity management, including potential detailed roles and responsibilities. The constraints, needs and expected roles of these target groups have been analysed in Annex 2.

5.1.3 Priority areas for support/problem analysis

The core problem that this project seeks to address is the lack of a strong and sustained collective, institutionalised regional approach to the conservation and management of terrestrial and marine biodiversity in the Caribbean Islands. The region's biodiversity is remarkably rich, but it has been severely impacted by historical patterns of land and natural resource use, and current, unsustainable forms of development and modes of production. This exacerbates vulnerability to climate change, in particular to increasingly frequent droughts, as well as hurricanes and tropical storms, causing coastal damage, landslides, floods, etc.¹⁴ While each island is somewhat unique,

¹⁴ The most recent hurricane in the region was Matthew. This made landfall on the southwest coast of **Haiti** on Tuesday, 4th October 2016. Matthew was a Category 4 hurricane. The UNEP managed research weather station at Port a Piment recorded over 700mm of rainfall in less than 2 days. A strong storm surge was also recorded, raising the sea level and sending very large waves onto the exposed southwest coast. Hurricane Matthew came within 75 miles of Mole-St-Nicolas which is a key spot in terms of connectivity. The cumulative impact of Hurricane Matthew has devastated the South and Grand Anse Departments. The international community and the government of Haiti is responding to the disaster and UNEP is part of that effort. <http://www.rcinet.ca/en/2016/10/12/cuba-struggles-to-rebuild-after-hurricane-matthew/> "While much of the world attention in the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew has been focused on the deadly path it cut in Haiti, authorities in neighbouring **Cuba**, which was also walloped by the strongest storm to hit the Caribbean in nearly a decade, are also struggling to rebuild. The hurricane hit the eastern tip of Cuba and caused considerable damage in Baracoa, Imias, San Antonio and Maisi." Maisi is another key spot in terms of connectivity in Cuba. <http://floodlist.com/america/hurricane-matthew-causes-deaths-haiti-dominican->

with high rates of endemism and great ecological diversity, there are migratory species and shared resources that rely on habitats located in several islands. Ecosystems are often connected, and the Caribbean Sea is itself a single, large marine ecosystem. It is impossible to conserve and manage the region's biological diversity effectively in the absence of an integrated and cooperative approach, which is currently lacking, primarily due to the points indicated in section 1.1 "Context".

As a result, the effectiveness of conservation work in the Caribbean region is reduced, because:

- efforts and successes achieved in some locations can be undermined by inadequate management and conservation in other locations;
- institutions do not have access to knowledge, human, financial or technical resources that are available in neighbouring countries and would meet their needs;
- opportunities for the integrated management and conservation of shared resources, and for an increased contribution of biodiversity to livelihoods and economic development, are missed, with the private sector insufficiently involved;
- the governance arrangements are often weak, compliance with legal frameworks by both the public and the private sector itself is sometimes poor, and there is a multiplicity of initiatives that are insufficiently connected.
- long-term biodiversity and climate change mitigation planning is not tuned with short-term focus of economic and social policies, and long-term biodiversity and climate change visions have not been fully developed. Knowledge and understanding of current and potential role or impact of the private sector in biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation is limited (e.g. investments are geared towards few sectors; the private sector is not aware of the importance or the benefits of biodiversity to their business or of the positive effects of mainstreaming the values of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services into their business models and into supply chains; finance for enterprises, in particular for Small Medium Enterprises, and financial inclusion (microfinance) for environment-related businesses is incipient).

Consequently, migratory species, shared ecosystems and endemic species with very restricted geographic distribution remain threatened, shared stocks of commercially important species are not effectively managed, important ecosystem services and opportunities for adaptation and disaster risk reduction are limited or lost, and the region continues to miss opportunities to enhance livelihoods, reduce poverty and promote economic development through effective biodiversity conservation.

CBC Phase I elaborated a socio-economic study of a total of 9 communities in Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic. The communities were chosen based on their links to key spots for biodiversity conservation and connectivity. The study included 415 interviews. The results vary according to countries but the general findings were:

- The houses are mostly built with a zinc roof in the nine communities, although in Haiti cane palm is also widely used; Cuba also uses asbestos-cement roofs. The greatest diversity of materials is presented on the walls, which are generally made of clay and cuje in Haiti, of wood in the Dominican Republic and of cement or cement and stones in Cuba. Housing in

republic: "Parts of the **Dominican Republic** have been hit hard by heavy rainfall. Street flooding has been reported and river levels are high, in particular the Yabacao River which was overflowed."

the communities remains between "acceptable" and "in very poor condition". The worst conditions are in Haiti.

- Ages ranged from 1 to 83 years. In the case of women an average of 31 years was identified. The maximum age for women was 83 years and that was identified in the town of Bassin Blue (Haiti). The average age for men was 33 years, with a maximum age of 83 years registered in Baitiquirí (Cuba).
- The study identified 138 problems related to the socio-economic and environmental situation of the communities. These include: poor housing, lack of jobs, lack of food security, the need to use firewood for cooking, deforestation, unhealthy human settlements due to the lack of sanitation and the dumping of household waste into the environment.
- The percentage of illiteracy varied in these nine communities from 0% in Cuba to 78% in a Haitian community. The percentages of university students are low in all communities, where most of the people interviewed only reached the basic or fundamental level of education. In Haitian communities there are children who do not go to school.
- The communities studied are mostly engaged in agriculture, other important jobs include trade and fishing. The percentage of unemployment is high in most communities, reaching up to 47% in the most extreme case and between 1 and 27% in the rest.
- A large part of the people interviewed reported having access to health services, with values greater than 90%. Health services are offered mostly by the public sector or by the private sector.
- A large proportion of the people in these communities did not have access to potable water and have to carry it from great distances (sometimes as much as 12-15 km away), which is mostly done by women.
- The most commonly used sources of energy were firewood and charcoal for cooking and to a lesser extent propane gas and electricity. However for lighting there are more alternatives, e.g. kerosene, electricity and candle and to a lesser extent the use of rechargeable lamps, power plants and solar panels. There was a high dependence on natural resources as sources of energy in these communities.
- With respect to the family structure, men are, in general, in charge of the sustenance of the household representing 68% above women. The age of the caregivers fluctuated in men from 15 to 83 years and in women from 17 to 74 years. In general, an average age of 47 is presented for the caregivers of the family.
- The interviewees usually expressed wishes for the development of their community. The most cited ones were the increase in employment, in schools, in access to electricity and to potable water. Also, construction of housing, construction of latrines and increase of places to agricultural products.
- Interviewees had a little environmental perception and a lack of knowledge about the biodiversity surrounding their communities, especially the rarest and most threatened species.

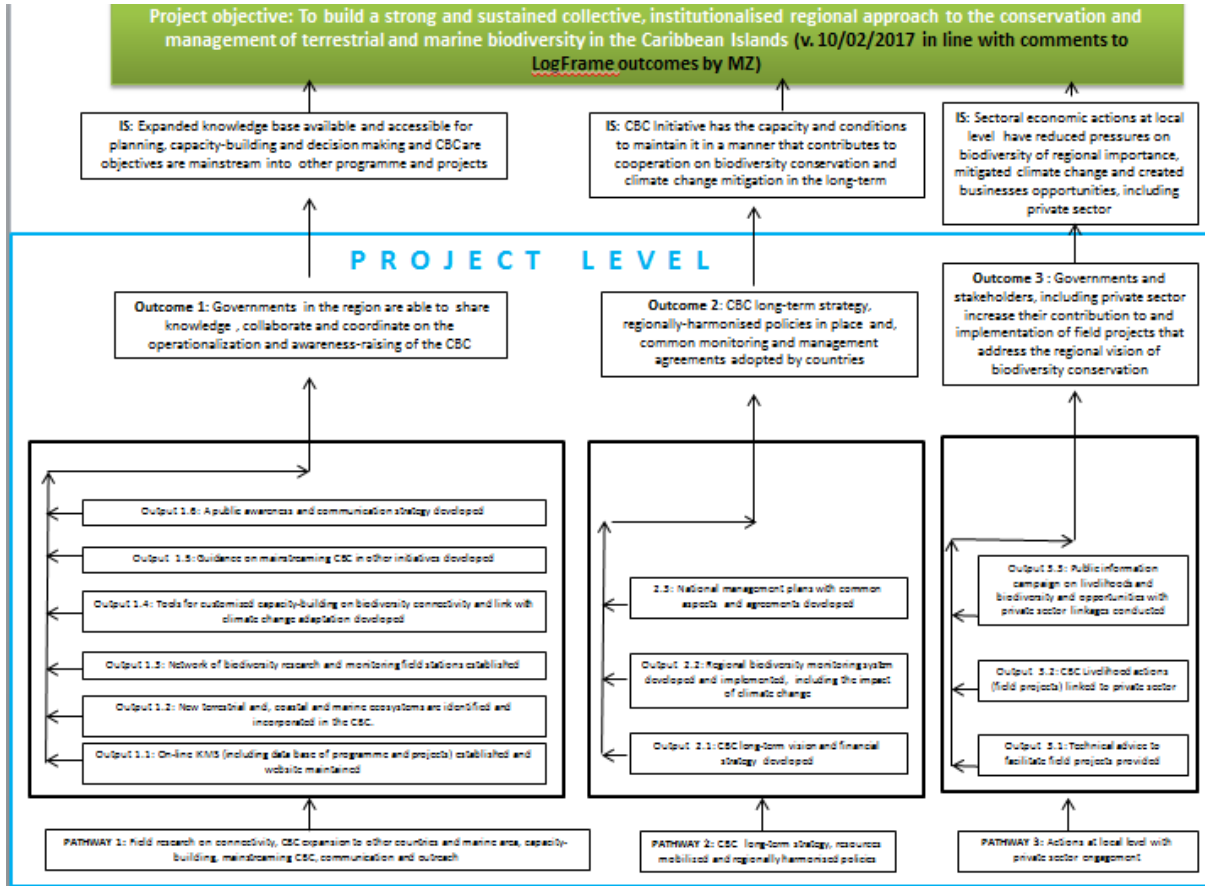
It is important to note that the final evaluation of CBC Phase I pointed out that: “the Project will ultimately be measured, not against the outputs delivered and the results achieved in the past five years, but against the ability of the CBC Initiative to become a permanent and effective instrument of cooperation among the three countries, and eventually on a wider scale. It will also be measured against its ability to add value, on a sustainable basis, to all the other efforts in conservation and natural resource management in the Caribbean region by preserving connectivity, by informing regional, national and local planning decisions, by providing a platform for exchange and cooperation, and by engaging all the relevant actors and interest groups.”

In any case, CBC Phase I resulted in the following achievements and shortcomings, as highlighted in the final evaluation report:

- CBC delimited and demarcation agreed upon by the three participating countries and endorsed by Ministerial Meeting, including core zones and connectivity zones.
- The knowledge base improved, even if the CBC Project did not generate a significant amount of new knowledge, it has usefully compiled and made accessible existing information.
- The strengthening of a network of protected areas within the CBC was not achieved but some useful networking activities and exchanges occurred.
- Capacity building activities carried out (45 of them with 1210 participants) and assessed positively by recipients but most of them were not be sufficient to transform the practice of biodiversity management at the national level.
- Identification and implementation of livelihood alternatives for the communities to reduce pressure on biological diversity: All field projects brought, and will most likely continue to bring, some benefits to local residents. These benefits were substantial and sustainable in some instances (e.g. Verraco in Cuba), but more fragile in others (e.g. La Gonâve in Haiti); the projects were based on detailed assessments and characterisation, but without a suitable assessment of vulnerability and development potentials; the livelihood activities did not constitute true alternatives, they are more additions to existing livelihood strategies than new possibilities or choices capable of replacing current activities; the field projects also conducted activities that will contribute to reducing pressure on biological diversity (e.g. reforestation, erosion control, improved waste management), but there was no evidence yet of livelihood activities contributing directly to improved biodiversity conservation, although this will happen in the future in several instance (e.g. when coffee trees planted in Haitian sites become harvestable).
- The Project sought to establish partnerships between communities and the private sector, but this has not was not achieved. This is, of course, a complex domain, especially considering the differences that exist between the political structures and production systems of these three countries.
- Building three propagation centres (one in each country) that are operating with government support.
- A tri-national coordination entity established and functioning: Not only did the Project establish and operate an effective tri-national office, but it has also gave life and substance to the concept of a Corridor. While much more is needed to make this entity permanent and to make its governance arrangements more inclusive and representative, this represents a major step towards the establishment of the CBC as a strong, legitimate, effective and durable cooperation framework. The CBC Initiative and Project have emerged from a strong political engagement, and the Project has contributed significantly to sustaining that commitment and to translate it into tangible political and technical support.
- Inter-ministerial agreement among Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic to establish the CBC Secretariat signed in November 2014 at the last Ministerial Meeting.
- Cooperation has been sustained and has increased: Institutions in the three countries, especially the three Ministries of the Environment, have benefited from increased cooperation, exchanges have been facilitated between professionals, institutions and communities (e.g. between Pedro Santana and Dosmond), and skills and human resources have been shared.

6 THEORY OF CHANGE

The theory of change of the project is presented below (latest version discussed with QAS).



ASSUMPTIONS

Objective	The ministries of the environment of Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic continue showing interest and willingness to work in a cooperative manner
Outcome 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministries of education and universities of the three countries support the programme • Multilateral and bilateral relations in the region do not create substantial obstacles to cooperation
Outcome 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Favourable policy environment; various sources of funding available • Good coordination between national and local partners
Outcome 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willingness of local communities and the private sector towards biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation • Field projects and private sector partnerships are selected on the basis of relevance and demonstration potential

7 RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

Risks	Risk level (H/M/L)	Mitigating measures
Insufficient technical capacity of participating institutions, especially in Haiti	M	Capacity-building activities initiated from the very beginning of project, and sustained throughout, for the benefit of the Ministry at central and provincial levels. Needs assessment tailored to each country. Facilitation of networking and cooperation among participating institutions in the three countries.
Changes in leadership in participating institutions	M	On-going communication with and involvement of senior personnel in the participating institutions, to ensure continuity even when changes occur Continued demonstration of the value of transboundary cooperation and of the role of environmental management in justifying such cooperation, and alliance with other binational cooperation efforts
Political and social unrest in Haiti	M	Understanding about the circumstances that may trigger political and social unrest, how intensely that unrest is likely to materialize and what interventions promise to deescalate the conflict

Tensions between the Dominican Republic and Haiti that may hinder cooperation	M	Collaboration with and involvement of civil society organisations active in transboundary programmes and with legitimacy to work on both sides of the border and / or on transboundary issues.
Assumptions		
Commitment of participating governments and ministries responsible for biodiversity will remain. Key regional actors will support the Caribbean Biological Corridor and take advantage of opportunities for synergies. There will be financing available (from participating governments, the private sector, civil society and development partners) to support implementation of activities and to sustain the cooperation mechanisms during and beyond life of project.		

8 LESSONS LEARNT, COMPLEMENTARITY AND CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

8.1 Lessons learnt

This proposal builds on the achievements of previous actions (CBC Phase I and CBC Transition Phase), which were all documented and assessed in the final evaluation of the CBC Phase I¹⁵, and notably:

- the sustained and active involvement of the Governments of Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Haiti at both political and technical levels - this commitment was demonstrated for example with significant financial investments, the signing of the Inter-ministerial agreement in November 2014 and the establishment of a permanent Secretariat for the Corridor, ensuring its operationalisation and facilitating coordination with multiple initiatives; with respect to the financial investments, the following table shows the financial contributions of the counterparts in the pilot projects and propagation centres.

¹⁵ The CBC Phase I was subject to two Results Oriented Monitoring (ROM) missions that resulted in the respective ROM reports, one in July 2011 and the other one in July 2012; also to a final evaluation (June 2015); and the CBC Transition Phase had a ROM mission in July/August 2015 from which a report was also issued.

Annex 5: Summary of co-finance information and statement of project expenditure

Financial contributions of the counterparts in the pilot projects and propagation centres³⁰

Country	Activity	Counterpart	Project financing (USD)	Government counterpart (USD)	NGO counterpart (USD)
Haiti	Propagation centre, Dosmond	Université Quisqueya	105,000	93,355	45,351
	Pilot projects in Caracol, Fort Drouet, La Gonâve	Ministry of the Environment	125,000	64,203	0
	Pilot projects in Dosmond, Bassin Bleu	WHH	137,330	6,000	40,000
Dominican Republic	Propagation centre, Pedro Santana	Ministry of the Environment	55,000	62,000	0
	PV system, Las Palmas)	Ministry of the Environment	15,000	1,500	0
	Pilot projects, Pedro Santana	CEDAF and Ministry of the Environment	87,366	132,400	6,740
Total			524,696	359,458	92,091

- the partnerships already established between government agencies and civil society organisations for collaboration in field projects and capacity-building, and with partnerships with other regional organisations and initiatives;
- the knowledge generated on ecosystem connectivity, key biodiversity areas and conservation priorities, and the systems and instruments put in place to manage such knowledge and make it accessible, thanks largely to the first Caribbean Biological Corridor project and the contributions of the Government of Cuba, with a trilingual website, a geographic information system and more than 900 data layers created, and an extensive bibliography;
- the networks and other mechanisms of technical cooperation that have been established and / or supported, among technical agencies and professionals working in biodiversity conservation and related fields, with study tours and participation in regional events - these networks and mechanisms now need to be sustained and consolidated;
- the processes of capacity-building that have been initiated and institutions that have been strengthened and equipped, for example in Dosmond in Haiti or at the Siboney Ecological Station in Cuba - all that now need to be expanded and strengthened;
- the approaches tested and processes supported at local level through a range of innovative projects in community-based conservation, renewable energy and reforestation, with three propagation centres established and ten field projects designed and implemented.

From this experience, there are a number of important lessons learnt, including the findings of the terminal evaluation of the previous European Union-supported action, that have guided the design of this new action, including:

- the importance of placing local and national biodiversity conservation and environmental

management initiatives, actions and institutions within a larger regional context that focuses on large ecosystems and takes into account their connectivity;

- the role of critical ecosystems in supporting adaptation and resilience to climate change;
- the limited attention that has been given in the past to the study and management of biological connectivity and shared ecosystems in the Caribbean, with the Caribbean Biological Corridor beginning to fill an important and major gap in knowledge and management planning;
- the need to pay greater attention to knowledge production, management and dissemination, including through suitable and compatible monitoring systems, and targeting in particular the public sector agencies responsible for development and land use planning, as policies, plans and actions are affected by critical data and information gaps;
- the role that the environmental sector can play as a driver for cooperation, as demonstrated by the many joint initiatives between the Dominican Republic and Haiti in environmental management in the border region, including activities implemented by the European Union's Binational Programme;
- the value of cooperation platforms that operate at both political and technical levels, ensuring that actions are guided by policy and that capacity to implement is adequate;
- the benefits that can be gained from more coordination between institutions, programmes, etc.;
- the need to ensure that biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation and mitigation are integrated into national and sector policy and institutional frameworks.

8.2 Complementarity, synergy and donor coordination

This action is consistent with and will complement, contribute to and benefit from a number of regional, national or sub-national strategies, programmes and projects, and in particular:

- actions implemented under the European Union National Indicative Programmes (2014 - 2020) for Cuba, notably with its focus on climate change and renewable energy; for Haiti, notably with its focus on education and food security; and for the Dominican Republic, notably with its focus on productive development; as well as with the 11th EDF Binational Programme for the Dominican Republic and Haiti, which will include a focus on climate change and environment.
- actions implemented under ECHO funding in Haiti, Cuba and Dominican Republic in terms of Disaster preparedness, Drought Resilience and Food Assistance.
- multi-country actions such as the EU-funded BIOPAMA project, jointly implemented by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the EU's Joint Research Centre (JRC) and Germany's international development agency, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, which is improving capacity to manage biodiversity and protected areas in the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of developing countries;
- the Cartagena Convention and its Protocol on Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPA), with its objectives of: (a) increasing the number, and improving the management, of protected and/or managed areas, including support to national and regional conservation management strategies and plans; (b) supporting the conservation of threatened and endangered species and sustainable use of natural resources to prevent them from becoming threatened or endangered, and (c) developing a strong regional capability for information exchange, training and assistance, in support of national biodiversity conservation efforts and in synergy with relevant international instruments;
- the programme of work of the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF), as it is consistent with the recommendations contained in the Ecosystem Profile of the Caribbean

Islands Biodiversity Hotspot, and will establish synergies with the civil society organisations and the field projects that are supported by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund; this project will also take into consideration lessons learnt from the “ecosystem profile” update that is envisaged in the next Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund re-investment phase;

- on-going programmes and projects of the Regional Coordinating Unit of the Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP), notably those undertaken under the auspices of the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife Protocol and its Regional Activity Centre (RAC) including the work on the regional ecosystem profile carried out in the frame of the BEST III contract (more detail see <http://ec.europa.eu/best>);
- the UN Environment-Government of Haiti project for the Sustainable Development and Resilient Economic Growth of Haiti Grand Sud Region, with several opportunities for collaboration and synergies, notably in marine and coastal protected area planning, management and networking;
- the United Nations Development Programme/Global Environment Facility project “CLME+: Catalysing Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Sustainable Management of shared Living Marine Resources in the Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems” aimed at facilitating ecosystem based management/an ecosystem approach to fisheries, with a focus on transboundary and cross-sectoral governance arrangements;
- the United Nations Development Programme/Global Environment Facility/The Nature Conservancy project: Re-engineering the National Protected Area System in Order to Achieve Financial Sustainability Dominican Republic 2007-2011;
- the call for proposals, to be funded by the Biodiversity allocation of the European Union's Global Public Goods and Challenges programme (EUR 8.5 M), that will provide grants for conservation or sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services in marine or coastal areas of the Caribbean Sea. Its target countries include Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Haiti. Grant award are expected by September 2016;
- several regional and national programmes and projects implemented by organisations such as The Nature Conservancy (TNC) or Welthungerhilfe (WHH);
- various Haiti – Dominican Republic transboundary cooperation mechanisms, including the Joint Bilateral Commission, the Parliamentary border commission and various local border development agencies and cooperation platforms such as the Comité Intermunicipal Transfronterizo (CIT).
- Programmes in the region derived from the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) relating to, amongst other, endangered migratory birds, turtles and marine mammals and in the context of Convention on Migratory Species Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (2015-2023).

Donor coordination and the facilitation of synergies among a diversity of actors at regional, national and local levels will be at the very center of this action, which aims at sustaining and widening a regional cooperation platform. The project’s Technical Committee and other ad hoc groups will serve as platforms for information sharing, coordination, joint programming and policy advice, contributing directly to the promotion and facilitation of donor coordination.

8.3 Cross-Cutting Issues

Three cross-cutting issues will receive special attention during the execution of this action:

- **Equity and gender:** the relationship between people and their environment, and the manner

in which people and communities are affected by environmental change, will vary depending on factors such as gender, age, ethnicity or language. This action will take this reality into account in all its activities, by ensuring that the issues that affect women, children and elderly people are considered in activities (including in particular the field projects), by conducting its communication activities in forms and languages that make them accessible to all. More specifically, the project will take into account how women and men have knowledge about biodiversity (i.e. how they understand biodiversity) and how this can strengthen biodiversity conservation while improving their quality of life equally; will facilitate access to capacity building processes in equal terms and, will take into account how men and women may receive and transmit their knowledge by different means. In the field projects to be developed, the project will analyse how men and women understand the value change in respective development process (e.g. use of charcoal for different purposes, honey production, mangroves rehabilitation, eco-tourism operations). The project will contribute to equal economic opportunities and access to biodiversity resources. It will also analyse how men and women are affected by biodiversity loss, climate change and disasters;

- **Rights-based approach:** the project will contribute to recognise and increase local communities' knowledge on biodiversity and genetic resources, and facilitate their access to information relating to their sustainable use. It will approach biodiversity conservation as a contributor to local livelihoods and poverty reduction, and it will increase the participation of local communities, including vulnerable groups, in the design and implementation of management plans for natural resources and protected areas. This means that their rights to information, access to land, genetic and other natural resources, and livelihood needs will not only be respected but also enhanced. All information on biodiversity and other fields, produced by the project will be public, and disseminated by formal as well as informal means, especially at local level. The project will contribute to build capacity of the governmental institutions, in charge of implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity, ratified by the 3 countries, which among others establishes the above-mentioned rights;
- **Adaptation to climate change:** The project will contribute directly to enhance the key role of natural ecosystems in adaptation to climate change and resilience-building at community, national and regional levels.

9 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

9.1 Objectives/results and options

The action will contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in the Caribbean Islands Hotspot, and to the delivery of a number of broad, long-term impacts:

- contribution to achievement by participating countries of the Aichi targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity by 2020;
- progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), especially SDG 13 (Targets 13.1 and 13.2), SDG 14 (Targets 14.2, 14.4, 14.5 and 14.7) and SDG 15 (Targets 15.1, 15.2, 15.3 and 15.5).
- contribution to the 2015-2020 Gender Plan of Action of the Convention on Biological Convention (CBD) and SDG 5 on gender equality;
- contribution to countries' compliance with provisions of key multi-lateral environmental agreements, in particular the Ramsar Convention and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (including its provisions on international

trafficking in species).

The overall objective (impact) of the action is to build a strong and sustained collective, institutionalised regional approach to the conservation and management of terrestrial and marine biodiversity in the Caribbean Islands.

The specific objectives are to:

1. Evidence-based harmonised biodiversity and terrestrial and marine corridors and protected areas policies adopted by countries, including and standardised and shared instruments of monitoring and for protected areas and Biosphere Reserve management, with emphasis on transboundary or adjacent areas;
2. Key national public institutions strengthened and a cooperation platform at political, scientific and technical levels, including civil society and academia, sustained and operating notably through the establishment of the Caribbean Biological Corridor Initiative as a permanent and financially sustainable Caribbean institution;
3. Key stakeholders (sectoral ministries, private sector, public at large) enhanced understanding of the linkages between biodiversity, adaptation to climate change, livelihoods and economic development, with an increased awareness of benefits derived from such linkages, with special emphasis on connectivity.

The project will revolve around the following components as originally discussed with ministries of the environment, CBC Secretariat and donor:

- Component 1: Biodiversity management at all levels is based on and supported by a sustainable and integrated knowledge management system that eventually covers the Greater Antillean ecosystem, including its marine biodiversity.
- Component 2: Policies and instruments for biodiversity conservation and management (including formal agreements when required) in the participating countries are assessed, shared and harmonised, whenever possible and desirable.
- Component 3: Adequate and compatible capacity allows for effective use of the knowledge management system and implementation of policies and use of instruments across countries.
- Component 4: Cooperation mechanisms between countries and institutions involved in biodiversity at political, scientific, technical and civil society levels, including the Caribbean Biological Corridor, are sustained and strengthened.
- Component 5: Biodiversity conservation and the maintenance of connectivity contribute to sustain livelihoods, reduce poverty and create business opportunities.

The project will therefore contribute directly and significantly to the achievement of international, regional and national objectives and targets in relation to climate change and sustainable land management.

The project will work towards mainstreaming the Caribbean Biological Corridor approach in other initiatives including prioritising eco-regions for global and Caribbean conservation,

locations that are key to overcome threats to migratory species, to maintain endemic species and those that can be affected by climate change.

With respect to climate change, while the focus of the project will be on building resilience and reducing vulnerability through ecosystem-based adaptation, it will also contribute to climate change mitigation through the promotion of green jobs and renewable energy. The development of the Caribbean Biological Corridor and the effective implementation of its various instruments, including conservation corridors and protected areas, will at the same time contribute directly to combating desertification and land degradation.

9.2 Main activities

The outputs of the action are presented in the **log frame matrix in Annex 1**. The main activities of the project can be summarised as follows:

Component 1: Biodiversity management at all levels is based on and supported by a sustainable and integrated knowledge management system that eventually covers the Greater Antillean ecosystem, including its marine biodiversity.

- conduct of field research focused on connectivity, important migration routes and shared ecosystems, leading to a revised and expanded delimitation of the Caribbean Biological Corridor that includes marine space and biodiversity and takes into account possible inclusion of new countries and territories; the impact of climate change will be particularly considered.
- maintenance and expansion of a system for knowledge management and dissemination, including information access (website and other), networking among biological stations and protected area management agencies, as well as targeted dissemination to agencies best placed to integrate biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation in policies and plans.

Component 2: Policies and instruments for biodiversity conservation and management (including formal agreements when required) in the participating countries are assessed, shared and harmonised, whenever possible and desirable.

- including National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs) with a Caribbean Biological Corridor lens to propose the necessary adjustments to integrate the regional approach, connectivity and the role of biodiversity in adaptation to climate change;
- elaboration and adoption of a long-term strategic plan for the Caribbean Biological Corridor, which will be the basis of a regional strategy for biodiversity management;
- production of management plans and agreements for selected ecosystems and species within corridors, protected areas and others; this will be key to take into account the impact of climate change on these ecosystems and species and support their adaptation;
- design and promotion of common and shared monitoring systems, methodologies and protocols for selected ecosystems and species.

Component 3: There is adequate and compatible capacity that allows for effective use of the knowledge management system and implementation of policies and use of instruments across countries.

- development of a regional capacity-building and training programme on biodiversity conservation, connectivity and climate change adaptation with a variety of instruments, including the strengthening of public sector organisations vested with mandates for

biodiversity management and other targeted stakeholders, such as managers, community leaders, academics and entrepreneurs and also those responsible for sectors that depend and/or impact on biodiversity (e.g. agriculture, fisheries, mining or tourism); the project will emphasise building permanent training capacities of relevant institutions in the region.

- direct and indirect provision of customised training on selected topics, including values of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services; monitoring of migratory species, ecosystem-based adaptation, and management of transboundary resources; restoration and protection of coastal ecosystems; agroforestry; design and development of nature based businesses; environmental impact assessment; amongst other.

Component 4: Cooperation and coordination mechanisms between countries and institutions involved in biodiversity at political, scientific, technical and civil society levels, including Caribbean Biological Corridor, are sustained and strengthened.

- active participation in relevant regional processes, events, meetings and establishment and implementation of a communication strategy from the very beginning, aimed at promoting cooperation, information sharing and synergies;
- planned and progressive expansion of the Caribbean Biological Corridor, in both thematic and geographic terms. Though the Caribbean Biological Corridor has the vocation to encompass eventually all Caribbean countries, a progressive approach would give priority to complete coverage of the Greater Antilles and to fully encompass coastal and marine biodiversity;
- institutional design of permanent arrangement for the Caribbean Biological Corridor, including: - appropriate legal instrument(s) - financial and sustainability plan (to be adopted within 18 months of project start and its implementation supported thereafter).

Component 5: Biodiversity conservation and the maintenance of connectivity contribute to sustain livelihoods, reduce poverty and create business opportunities

- establishment and management of a data base of programmes and projects that demonstrate linkages between biodiversity, climate change mitigation, livelihoods and economic development, and conduct of a public information campaign on these linkages, including targeted activities aimed at encouraging private sector participation;
- facilitation, in collaboration with local partners in government, civil society and the private sector, of a small number of field projects selected through a call for proposals, with the provision of advice, technical assistance, small-scale funding and fundraising support (Appendix 2 shows the initial criteria for selection);
- diagnostic, in the concerned countries, of private sector linkages with biodiversity management, and prioritisation of areas to facilitate (large and small) businesses' proactive involvement, to promote related sustainable business opportunities and to reduce negative impacts on biodiversity; provision of targeted support (essentially technical assistance) to selected businesses, complemented with a public information campaign on livelihoods and biodiversity and opportunities with private sector.

The log frame has simplified the components into three substantive outcomes and a fourth one dealing with the “management of the project in line with the contribution agreement and UN Environment best practice”. See point on “Priority areas for support/problem analysis” above which includes the Theory of change of the project.

9.3 Intervention Logic

The root cause	Causes of the problem	The problem issue	Effects of the problem	Desirable response	Indicators of impacts	Desired long-term outcomes	Project outputs (by 2020)
Pressures from human activity, settlements and economic sectors (e.g. mining, agriculture, fisheries or tourism) on biodiversity, rooted in history and exacerbated by climate change and current development trends	Critical knowledge gaps, including in species distribution, biodiversity connectivity and, biodiversity response to climate change or migration patterns	Lack of a collective, regional approach to (terrestrial and marine) biodiversity conservation and management in the Caribbean Islands Hotspot	Biodiversity loss, especially migratory species, shared ecosystems and endemic species of very restricted geographic distribution	Increased and improved knowledge on conservation requirements for shared biological resources	Aichi targets Sustainable Development Goals National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans and other national strategies	Biodiversity management at all levels is based on and supported by a sustainable and integrated knowledge management system	Generated, compiled, accessible and updated information base, with research, rapid assessments, knowledge management, and monitoring
	Political, policy and institutional diversity, weak or absent cooperation mechanisms, language barriers			An enabling and favorable policy environment			
			Loss of critical economic and social services provided by ecosystems				
			Missed opportunities to enhance livelihoods, reduce poverty and promote economic				

			development through effective biodiversity conservation	Technical cooperation among countries and institutions in the region		There is adequate and compatible capacity that allows for effective use of the knowledge system and implementation of policies and use of instruments across countries	Institutional strengthening of key institutions (esp. Ministries of the Environment and/or biodiversity agencies, as well as those responsible for related sectors)
	Capacity issues, uneven capacities between countries, strengths and capacities in some countries not available in others, human resources generally inadequate			Similar levels of capacity to allow for joint action and sharing between countries		Cooperation mechanisms between countries and institutions involved in biodiversity and climate change at political, scientific, technical and civil society levels, including the Caribbean Biological Corridor, exist and are sustained	A cooperation platform at political, scientific and technical levels, inclusive of civil society and academia (with networks, e.g. BR). Greater involvement of private sector in biodiversity management and climate change mitigation and adaptation measures
	Dominant approach to conservation, mainly locally based, with insufficient attention given to connectivity and “bigger picture” (global priorities, large ecosystems and connectivity), lack of an integrated approach (including linkages between biodiversity and climate change) and			Contribution of ecosystem services and biodiversity to economic development and livelihoods			Caribbean Biological Corridor as a permanent Caribbean institution, organizational design and establishment

						<p>Biodiversity conservation, the maintenance of connectivity and climate change adaptation and mitigation measures contribute to sustain livelihoods, reduce poverty and create business opportunities</p>	<p>Documented and demonstrated linkages between biodiversity, livelihoods, climate change and economic development, and awareness of benefits derived from such linkages</p> <p>A small number of field projects test, enhance and document these linkages</p>
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9.4 Sustainability

The project will foster environmental, social, economic and institutional sustainability as follows.

Environmental sustainability

- Enhancements in access on the part of managers, community leaders, academics and entrepreneurs to biodiversity values and ecosystems functions and services, monitoring of migratory species, ecosystem-based adaptation, restoration and connectivity information, climate change adaptation policies and plans, amongst other as a result of the strengthening of capacities for monitoring, evaluation and assessments gaps.
- Promoting the sustainable management of biodiversity through a small number of field projects.

Social sustainability

- Creation of business opportunities, including through partnerships with the private sector, to sustain livelihoods based on biodiversity conservation and the maintenance of connectivity contribute to sustain livelihoods.
- Developing training and promoting awareness of key stakeholders of biodiversity conservation, connectivity and climate change adaptation. As a result, policies and plans will better address biodiversity, climate change adaptation and social linkages, and will therefore have a greater likelihood of acceptance among the target population.

Economic sustainability and institutional sustainability

- Achieving the design of the permanent institutional arrangement for the Caribbean Biological Corridor, including: appropriate legal instrument(s) and a financial and sustainability plan.

Institutional sustainability

- The project will not create new institutions or designate new staff but will work with the existing institutions and strengthening their capacities.
- The project, through the Technical Committee and Ministerial Committee, will ensure that its implementation is embedded in the ministries of the environment own planning and priorities.
- The fact that national focal points will be members of existing institutions officially devoted to liaise with the project (which is a modality that worked in the previous action very efficiently).
- The CBC Secretariat was officially established by the Inter-ministerial agreement among Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic that was signed in November 2014. The government of the Dominican Republic has provided physical space and office-related support for its functioning. The ministries of the environment have agreed on the person to lead it (a Cuban National). Funding of the project will partly contribute to the functioning of the Secretariat during the execution of this project. One of the expected outputs of the project is the financial strategy of the Secretariat.

9.5 Replication

- Mainstreaming of regional approach to biodiversity conservation in policies, plans, projects and as well as capacity building of decision makers and technical staffs will contribute to replication of project results at national scale and to future partners of the CBC.
- The regional biodiversity knowledge management system can be applicable at national level.
- The project budget includes the systematization of experiences and lessons learned which will contribute to replication.

10 IMPLEMENTACION

10.1 Financing agreement

In order to implement this action, it is foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with the Dominican government, referred to in Article 17 of Annex IV to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement.

10.2 Indicative implementation period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 4.1 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 66 months from the date of entry into force of the financing agreement.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission's authorizing officer responsible by amending this decision and the relevant contracts and agreements; such amendments to this decision constitute non-substantial amendment in the sense of Article 9(4) of Regulation (EU) No 322/2015.

10.3 Implementation modalities

10.3.1 Indirect management with an international organisation

This action may be implemented in indirect management with the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) in accordance with Article 58(1)(c) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 applicable by virtue of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) No 323/2015.

This implementation entails administrative management and implementation of the Action. This implementation is justified because the United Nations Environment Programme has been an efficient implementation partner for the two previous projects; it is a transparent partner and has established good relations with all three governments involved and other stakeholders in the field of biodiversity. According to the final evaluation of the previous Caribbean Biological Corridor project, UN Environment supervision and backstopping was "excellent since 2012, but some communication and effectiveness issues in 2010 - 2011." In addition, the Inter-ministerial agreement on the Caribbean Biological Corridor signed in 2014 by the ministries of environment of Cuba, Haiti and Dominican Republic includes a section on the Cooperation between the Caribbean Biological Corridor Secretariat and the United Nations Environment Programme (Title III) where the ministries invite the United Nations Environment Programme to continue the provision of technical, operative, administrative and human resources assistance and in particular for the operation of the Caribbean Biological Corridor Secretariat as well as the design and implementation of programmes and work plans.

The Caribbean Biological Corridor Secretariat will be the main actor in ensuring Action implementation in the ground. The UN Environment will mainly directly act through it. The Secretariat is based in the Dominican Republic and it counts with dedicated staff and the collaboration of official national focal points from the ministries of the environment of Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic. In this context, the UN Environment, as entrusted entity, would carry out the following budget-implementation tasks: contract personnel who would technically and financially administer the programme, contract other specialized implementation entities to execute certain particular specialized components, and directly implement most programme activities at regional and national level. The strengthening of the Caribbean Biological Corridor Secretariat will be part of the process of organizational development of the Caribbean Biological Corridor to be carried out under component 4.

Field projects executed under component 5 will be selected on the basis of a call for proposals developed in accordance with the expected outputs of this project (Appendix 2 shows the initial criteria for selection).

The project will also be executed in close collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of the Dominican Republic; the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Haiti and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment of Cuba, who have agreed to provide substantive technical and financial support to the project.

For the implementation of this action, the ministries will also facilitate the use of existing capacities (including those created or strengthened by the previous action).

Puerto Rico being member of the Caribbean Biological Corridor Initiative, it is important that the project activities are coordinated with its stakeholders, and that the systems and products designed in the context of the Caribbean Biological Corridor are harmonized. A mechanism will be established through the Caribbean Biological Corridor Secretariat to ensure such coordination with Puerto Rico, but the latter will bring its own resources for collaboration within the Caribbean Biological Corridor framework.

The entrusted international organization is currently undergoing the ex-ante assessment in accordance with Article 61(1) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 EDF. The Commission’s authorizing officer responsible deems that, based on the compliance with the ex-ante assessment based on Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1605/2002 and long-lasting problem-free cooperation, the international organization can be entrusted with budget-implementation tasks under indirect management.

10.4 Indicative budget

	EU contribution (EUR)
1. Contribution Agreement with United Nations Environment Programme (Indirect management)	3,480,000.00
2. Audits (Direct management)	20,000.00
Totals	3,500,000.00

The UN Environment and the governments of Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic will contribute to the project with direct inputs for the functioning of this project. These contributions

are very significant, with several national institutions contributing financial resources and in-kind support for a number of activities.

It is also important to recognize that while the present project focusses essentially on the mechanisms, tools and coordination capacities of the Caribbean Biological Corridor, the Caribbean Biological Corridor as an umbrella for regional biodiversity management actually encompasses a number of initiatives on the ground to implement its strategy. For example, Appendix 1 provides a mapping of projects provided by the Ministry of the Environment of Haiti (from diverse financing sources) contributing to the implementation of the Caribbean Biological Corridor Initiative.

10.5 Cost-effectiveness

See above: Indirect management with an international organisation. The operational and management cost of the project is 7% of the total budget.

10.6 Organizational set-up and responsibilities

The overall implementing agency responsible for the action will be the (UN Environment) / Latin American and Caribbean Office. The United Nations Environment Programme was recommended by all three governments, on the basis of the following added value:

- The need to implement an action in three and possibly more countries requires an experienced entity operating at multi-national level.
- As shown in the project evaluation, United Nations Environment Programme's track record in implementing the first Caribbean Biological Corridor project, and in supporting the Caribbean Biological Corridor Secretariat, has been positive overall. It demonstrated coordination capacities, effectiveness in implementation, multi-cultural sensitivity, and a transparent and collaborative approach with all stakeholders, including the European Union. All stakeholders have hence requested to keep this mechanism.
- In addition to its overall operative, administrative and financial management function, the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) / Latin American and Caribbean Office plays a key substantive role as it serves as Secretariat for the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean and participates in the high-level policy discussions on regional and national environmental agendas. The Caribbean Biological Corridor Initiative gave formal birth in the context of this Forum in 2007 and has been supported by United Nations Environment Programme thereafter. In the execution of this project, the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) / Latin American and Caribbean Office will continue to facilitate linkages between participating governments and agencies, will promote its geographical expansion and will facilitate the articulation with countries already interested in joining the Corridor.
- The United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) / Latin American and Caribbean Office will ensure that countries priorities benefit from United Nations Environment Programme's wealth of technical expertise in various areas (e.g. climate change, ecosystem management, environmental governance, amongst other) and will also provide technical advice relating to capacity building processes, communities of practice, project implementation, monitoring systems, outreach material, and communication campaigns. Opportunities for South-South and Triangular cooperation will also be fostered (e.g. with the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor and the Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor - this corridor was also created in the context of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment-).

- The United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) is defining its Mid-Term Strategy for the period 2018-2021 and healthy and productive ecosystems constitute a thematic priority. The Regional Latin American and Caribbean Office will this area of work to the region's needs through discussions in the framework of the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin and the Caribbean and dialogue at the country level.
- The United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) / Latin American and Caribbean Office will keep UN Environment Haiti Office and UN Environment Sub-regional Office for the Caribbean informed about the implementation of the project and will seek synergies with programmes or initiatives particularly with respect to marine protected areas. They will be invited to the Technical and Ministerial Meetings of the project (as in the previous projects).

Execution of the action in the field will be coordinated by the Secretariat of the Caribbean Biological Corridor Initiative, as established by the Ministerial Committee at its session of November 2014. The Secretariat is accountable to the Ministerial Committee of the Caribbean Biological Corridor. The United Nations Environment Programme will hence directly support it¹⁶.

The technical personnel of the Caribbean Biological Corridor Secretariat will directly undertake desk and field work that goes beyond coordination.

The Authorising Officer by delegation will be the National Authorising Officer for the Dominican Republic, namely the Dirección General de Cooperación Multilateral (DIGECOM) in the Ministerio de Economía, Planificación y Desarrollo.

A Ministerial Committee will provide overall policy and programmatic direction to the action, including review and approval of progress reports and work programmes, formulation of policy recommendations to participating countries, and submissions to development partners. Members of this Committee are Ministers of the participating countries, or their delegates, the Secretariat of the Caribbean Biological Corridor, United Environment Programme, the concerned European Union Delegations, the Dominican Republic and Haitian National Authorising Officers, and selected stakeholders. The Committee will meet annually.

A Technical Committee will advise Ministerial Committee and provide support to the Secretariat through reviews of progress reports and specific activities, reviews of work programmes and proposals for specific activities, formulation of recommendations and provision of technical assistance on a case-by-case basis. This Committee is composed of representatives of the public sector agencies in the participating countries, the civil society organisations that have signed Memorandum of Understandings with the Secretariat, development partners involved in biodiversity in the region, and other actors as determined by the Secretariat and the Ministerial Committee. The Committee will meet biannually (face to face or virtually).

The Technical Committee and other ad hoc groups (e.g. meetings of development partners to discuss and promote donor coordination) will serve as platforms for information sharing, coordination, joint programming and policy advice.

¹⁶ See: <https://cbcreuniontm.wordpress.com/acuerdos-y-decisiones/>

10.7 Performance Monitoring and Reporting

The log frame matrix in annex to this document presents a preliminary set of indicators that will be refined and finalised at the beginning of implementation. These indicators will be aligned with the relevant programming documents, including the Caribbean Regional Indicative Programme, and with the European Union Results Framework.

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of this action will be a continuous process and part of the implementing partner's responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partner shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. Every report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced, as well as the degree of achievement of its results (outputs and direct outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the log frame matrix. The report shall be laid out in such a way as to allow monitoring of the means envisaged and employed and of the budget details for the action. The final report, narrative and financial, will cover the entire period of the action implementation.

The Commission may undertake additional project monitoring visits both through its own staff and through independent consultants recruited directly by the Commission for independent monitoring reviews (or recruited by the responsible agent contracted by the Commission for implementing such reviews).

10.8 Evaluation

Project evaluations will follow the United Nations Environment Programme's Evaluation Policy. The project has allocated 3% of the total budget to carry out a mid-term review and a terminal/final evaluation (Euros 99,000,000).

Having regard to the nature of the action, mid-term review and final evaluation will be carried out for this action or its components via independent consultants contracted by the United Nations Environment Programme.

The mid-term review will be carried out for problem solving, learning purposes, in particular with respect to progress made in policy reform and harmonization, in the design and use of standardized management and monitoring instruments, and in the establishment and operation of a sustainable cooperation platform.

The terminal/final evaluation will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision), taking into account in particular the fact that the sustainability of the project's interventions and processes will depend on the design and establishment of a cooperation platform that is sustained through the contributions of participating governments and agencies.

The Evaluation Office of the United Nations Environment Programme will be responsible for the final/terminal evaluation and will liaise with the project manager throughout the process. The final/terminal will provide an independent assessment of project performance (in terms of relevance, effectiveness and efficiency), and determine the likelihood of impact and sustainability. It will have two primary purposes: (i) to provide evidence of results to meet

accountability requirements, and (ii) to promote learning, feedback, and knowledge sharing through results and lessons learned among UNEP and executing partners. The direct costs of the evaluation will be charged against the project evaluation budget. The final/terminal evaluation will be initiated no earlier than six months prior to the completion of project activities and, if a follow-on phase of the project is envisaged, should be completed prior to completion of the project and the submission of the follow-on proposal.

The draft final/terminal report will be sent by the Evaluation Office to project stakeholders for comment. Formal comments on the report will be shared by the Evaluation Office in an open and transparent manner. The project performance will be assessed against standard evaluation criteria using a six point rating scheme. The final determination of project ratings will be made by the Evaluation Office when the report is finalized. A management response is required from the project manager and will be included, along with any response from the Evaluation Office, in the final evaluation report. The evaluation report will be publically disclosed and will be followed by a recommendation compliance process. The evaluation recommendations will be converted into a Recommendations Implementation Plan by the Evaluation Office Unit in conjunction with the project team. The Evaluation Office Unit will monitor compliance with this plan every six months for a total period of 18 months. Compliance performance is then reported on to the Deputy Executive Director on a six monthly basis and within the Biennial Evaluation Synthesis Report.

The evaluation reports shall be shared with the partner countries and other key stakeholders. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, in agreement with the partner countries, jointly decide on the follow-up actions to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, if indicated, the reorientation of the project.

10.9 Audit

Without prejudice to the obligations applicable to contracts concluded for the implementation of this action, the Commission may, on the basis of a risk assessment, contract independent audits or expenditure verification assignments for one or several contracts or agreements.

Indicatively, one (1) contract for audit services shall be concluded in the last year of implementation.

10.10 Communication and Visibility

Communication and visibility of the European Union is a legal obligation for all external actions funded by the European Union.

This action shall contain communication and visibility measures which shall be based on a specific Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action, to be elaborated at the start of implementation and supported with the budget indicated in section 5.4 above.

This project takes into consideration the need to communicate in four languages (Creole, English, French and Spanish), with resulting provisions for translation services reflected in the budget.

In terms of legal obligations on communication and visibility, the measures shall be implemented by the Commission, the partner country, contractors, grant beneficiaries and/or entrusted entities. Appropriate contractual obligations shall be included in, respectively, the financing agreement, procurement and grant contracts, and delegation agreements.

The Communication and Visibility Manual for European Union External Action shall be used to establish the Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action and the appropriate contractual obligations.

The final evaluation of the previous projects indicated “It may have been too ambitious to envisage a comprehensive programme of public education and awareness, and the CBC Project lacked a truly strategic approach with identified target audiences and pathways to meet specific communication objectives.” Nonetheless, the evaluation also found that “local awareness of the importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services increased, impacting on the potential for sustainability of CBC efforts.”

This project will build on the lessons learned in the previous action and will draft a communication strategy in consultation with the national focal points and communication teams of their ministries of the environment. This and facilitate communication and awareness raising to the different target audiences.

Capacity development activities will have an important visibility at the level of authorities and decision makers at regional, national and local scales and the civil society stakeholders.

The project website and the integrated knowledge management system (to be developed as part of the project) will help disseminating the documents generated by the project, in particular the technical reports, the final report and the mid-term review and final evaluation reports.

11 ANNEX 1: LOGICAL FRAMEWORK – UN ENVIRONMENT FORMAT (INCLUDES MILESTONES)

Relevant Expected Accomplishment(s) in the Programme of Work:

PoW 2016-2017:

- **Environmental Governance; EA (b):** The capacity of countries to develop and enforce laws and strengthen institutions to achieve internationally agreed environmental objectives and goals and comply with related obligations is enhanced
- **Ecosystem management, EA (c):** Services and benefits derived from ecosystems are integrated with development planning and accounting, and the implementation of biodiversity and ecosystem related multilateral environmental agreements

PoW 2018-2019:

- **Environmental Governance; EA (a):** The international community increasingly converges on common and integrated approaches to achieve environmental objectives and implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- **Ecosystem management; EA (a):** The health and productivity of marine and terrestrial ecosystems are institutionalized in education, monitoring and cross-sector and transboundary collaboration frameworks at country and international level.
- **Ecosystem management; EA (b):** Legislators from the public and private sectors test the inclusion of health and the productivity of ecosystems in economic decision-making.

PoW 2020-2021:

- **Environmental Governance; EA (a):** The international community increasingly converges on common and integrated approaches to achieve environmental objectives and implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- **Healthy and Productive Ecosystems; EA (a):** The health and productivity of marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems are institutionalized in education, monitoring and cross-sectoral and transboundary collaboration frameworks at the national and international levels.
- **Healthy and Productive Ecosystems; EA (b):** Policymakers in the public and private sectors test and consider the inclusion of the health and productivity of ecosystems in economic decision-making.

OUTCOME 1

1. Project Outcome (1)	Indicators	Relevant Subprogramme Expected Accomplishment and Indicator
<p>(1) Outcome 1: Governments in the region share knowledge, collaborate and coordinate on the operationalization and awareness-raising of the CBC with other actors</p>	<p>(1) # of institutions (governmental or else) using the CBC's IKMS (SP3) Baseline 0 Target 20</p>	<p>PoW 2016- 2017</p> <p>SP4 (EG); EA (b) – Indicator (ii), (iii)</p>
	<p>(2) CBC re-demarcation proposal (including its geographic expansion, negotiated and agreed) (SP4) Baseline 0 Target 1</p>	
	<p>(3) # of formal and informal partnerships between the CBC, governments and other actors in conservation and sustainable use activities at regional level (SP 3) Baseline 0 Target At least 2 by month 24 and 4 by end of project</p>	<p>PoW 2018-2019</p> <p>SP4 (EG); EA (a) – Indicator (ii), (iii) SP3 (EM); EA (a) – Indicator (i), (iv)</p>
	<p>(4) # of people trained in biodiversity issues including 50% women Baseline Approx. 100 in most recent previous action Target At least 200 people trained in themes relevant to CBC Indicator SP3 (EM)</p>	<p>POW 2020-2021:</p> <p>Environmental Governance (EG); EA (a) - Indicators (ii), (iii) - Output 6.</p> <p>Healthy and productive ecosystems; EA (a): Indicators (i), (iv) - Output 2.</p>
	<p>(5) # ha of protected areas in the CBC demarcation that the project contributes to conserve. Baseline: 0 Target: At least 50% of the areas in the CBC demarcation</p>	
<p>Project milestones that show progress towards achieving the project outcome</p>	<p>Expected Milestones (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)</p>	
<p>M1 Draft survey on biodiversity knowledge in the context of the CBC</p>	<p>Jun 2018</p>	
<p>M2 Report on results of survey</p>	<p>Dec 2018</p>	
<p>M3 3 governments report use of the IKMS (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Dec 2019</p>	
<p>M4 2 Partnerships signed (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Dec 2020</p>	
<p>M5 Re-demarcation CBC approved by governments (SP4 (EG))</p>	<p>Dec 2021</p>	
<p>M6 3 governments report use of the IKMS (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Jun 2022</p>	
<p>M7 2 Partnerships signed (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Dec 2022</p>	
2. Project Outputs	Indicators	
<p>1.1 On-line IKMS (including data base of programme and projects)</p>	<p>(1) A CBC integrated knowledge management system Baseline 0 Target 1</p>	

<p>established and website maintained</p> <p>UMOJA reference: This output should be entered (WBSE) one time: on the subprogramme under which expenditures are reported (SP3)</p>	<p>Indicator SP3 (EM)</p> <p>(2) # of CBC website visits Baseline 0 (info not available) Target At least 50 per month- change this to total end of project, milestone will break it down</p> <p>Indicator SP3 (EM)</p> <p>(3) # of CBC on-line database registries Baseline 3420 registries Target At least 2000 new registries by the end of the project (500 per year)</p> <p>Indicator SP3 (EM)</p> <p>(4) # of field surveys and databases resulting from the Rapid Biological Inventories (RBI) Baseline: 0 Target: 2</p>
<p>Project output Milestones:</p>	<p>Expected Milestone (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)</p>
<p>M1 IKM system drafted (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Jun 2018</p>
<p>M2 IKM system discussed and agreed (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Dec 2018</p>
<p>M3 1000 website visits (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Dec 2019</p>
<p>M4 500 website visits (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Jun 2020</p>
<p>M5 500 website visits (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Dec 2020</p>
<p>M6 500 website visits (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Dec 2020</p>
<p>M7 At least 2000 new registries in the database (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Jun 2022</p>
<p>1.2 New terrestrial and, coastal and marine ecosystems are identified and incorporated in the CBC</p> <p>UMOJA reference: This output should be entered (WBSE) two times: one for each of the subprogrammes under which expenditures are reported</p>	<p>(1) # of new coastal and marine areas identified Baseline: 0 Target: 4 areas</p> <p>Indicator SP3 (EM)</p> <p>(2) # of new countries or territories that actively become part of the CBC Baseline: 3 (Cuba, Haiti, Dominican Republic.) Target: 2</p> <p>Indicator SP4 (EG)</p>
<p>Project Milestones:</p>	<p>Expected Milestone (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)</p>
<p>M1 Puerto Rico is actively engaged in CBC activities (SP4 (EG))</p>	<p>Dec 2018</p>
<p>M2 1 new country expresses interest to join the CBC (SP4 (EG))</p>	<p>Dec 2018</p>
<p>M3 Draft of new demarcation is sent for discussion (SP4 (EG))</p>	<p>Dec 2020</p>
<p>M4 1 new country submits criteria to join the CBC (SP4 (EG))</p>	<p>Dec 2020</p>
<p>M5 the new demarcation of CBC is approved and adopted (SP4 (EG))</p>	<p>Dec 2021</p>
<p>M6 1 new country or territory joins the CBC (SP4 (EG))</p>	<p>Dec 2022</p>
<p></p>	<p></p>

<p>1.3 Network of biodiversity research and monitoring field stations established</p> <p>UMOJA reference: This output should be entered (WBSE) one time: one the subprogramme under which expenditures are reported</p>	<p>(1) # of established and functioning field stations Baseline 1 research and monitoring station (Cuba) Target 2 new research and monitoring field stations (1 by month 24, and 1 by month 30) Indicator SP3 (EM)</p> <p>(2) A unified research and monitoring protocol among countries Baseline 0 Target 1 unified research and monitoring protocol Indicator SP3 (EM)</p>
<p>Project Milestones:</p>	<p>Expected Milestone (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)</p>
<p>M1 One new research and monitoring field station operating (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Dec 2018</p>
<p>M2 Another new research and monitoring field station operating (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Jun 2019</p>
<p>M3 Network's operating protocol (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Jun 2019</p>
<p>M4 Reporting on biodiversity indicators using the monitoring protocols (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Jun 2019</p>
<p>M5 Reporting on biodiversity indicators using the monitoring protocols (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Dec 2020</p>
<p>M6 Reporting on biodiversity indicators using the monitoring protocols rise (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Dec 2021</p>
<p>M7 Consolidated final report on biodiversity using monitoring indicators (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Dec 2022</p>
<p>1.4 Tools for customized capacity-building focused on understanding connectivity, shared ecosystems and linkages with climate change mitigation in Caribbean islands developed and delivered</p> <p>UMOJA reference: This output should be entered (WBSE) one time: one the subprogramme under which expenditures are reported</p>	<p>(1) # of training tools Baseline 1 regional and semi-virtual course on ecosystem-based adaptation, including climate change; but no specific capacity-building tools tailored to countries and target groups Target 6-8 tools identified and assessed for countries and target groups by month 18, and used by at least 4 institutions by month 36 Indicator SP3 (EM)</p> <p>(2) # of capacity-building actions delivered Baseline Four in most previous recent action Target At least 18 capacity-building actions delivered Indicator SP3 (EM)</p> <p>(3) # of actions that benefit from the application of the capacity-building tools Baseline: 0 Target: 5</p> <p>(4) Capacity needs assessment Baseline: 0 Target: 1</p>
<p>Project Milestones:</p>	<p>Expected Milestone (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)</p>
<p>M1 Regional training and capacity-building programme developed and, adopted by Ministerial Committee (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Jun 2019</p>
<p>M2 Regional training and capacity-building programme initiated in three countries (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Dec 2020</p>
<p>M3 1 regional and semi-virtual course on ecosystem-based adaptation, including climate change; tailored to countries and target groups (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Jun 2021</p>

M4 50% of the regional training and capacity-building programme delivered in three countries. (SP3 (EM))	Jun 2020
M5 75% of the regional training and capacity-building delivered in the three countries. (SP3 (EM))	Dec 2021
M6 100% of the regional training and capacity-building programme delivered in the three countries (SP3 (EM))	Jun 2022
M7 At least 360 people trained, at least half of the people are women (SP3 (EM))	Dec 2022
<p>1.5 Guidance on mainstreaming the CBC in other cooperation platforms of mechanisms at political, scientific and technical levels, inclusive of civil society and academia (with networks, e.g., BR) developed, for coordination and collaboration</p> <p>UMOJA reference: This output should be entered (WBSE) one time: one the subprogramme under which expenditures are reported</p>	<p>(1) Guidance document developed Baseline None Target 1 guidance document Indicator SP4 (EG)</p> <p>(2) # of events that the CBC Secretariat participates and/or facilitates Baseline: 0 Target: 6</p>
Project Milestones:	Expected Milestone (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)
M1 Draft guidance document (SP4 (EG))	Dec 2018
M2 Regional workshop on the integration of the CBC in other cooperation platforms (SP4 (EG))	Jun 2019
M3 Approve guidance by Ministerial Committee (SP4 (EG))	Dec 2019
M4 Socialize the guidance at political, scientific and technical levels (SP4 (EG))	Jun 2020
M5 2 political, scientific and technical platforms use the guidance to shape or reshape their cooperation and coordination programmes, with explicit reference to the CBC (SP4 (EG))	Dec 2020
M6 2 political, scientific and technical platforms use the guidance to shape or reshape their cooperation and coordination programmes, with explicit reference to the CBC (SP4 (EG))	Dec 2021
M7 2 political, scientific and technical platforms use the guidance to shape or reshape their cooperation and coordination programmes, with explicit reference to the CBC (SP4 (EG))	Dec 2022
<p>1.6 A public awareness and communication strategy developed and implemented</p> <p>UMOJA reference: This output should be entered (WBSE) one</p>	<p>(1) Awareness and communication strategy developed Baseline Previous CBC communication strategy Target 1 up-to-date strategy Indicator SP3 (EM)</p> <p>(2) # of communication products in English, French and Spanish</p>

time: one the subprogramme under which expenditures are reported	Baseline None based on this new project Target Increase by 10% each year Indicator SP3 (EM)
Project Milestones:	Expected Milestone (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)
M1 Draft awareness and communication strategy (SP3 (EM))	Dec 2018
M2 Awareness and communication strategy adopted by Ministerial Committee (SP3 (EM))	Jun 2019
M3 1 communication product English, French and Spanish, based on the communication strategy (SP3 (EM))	Dec 2019
M4 1 communication product English, French and Spanish (SP3 (EM))	Jun 2020
M5 1 communication product English, French and Spanish (SP3 (EM))	Dec 2020
M6 1 communication product English, French and Spanish (SP3 (EM))	Jun 2021
M7 1 communication product English, French and Spanish (SP3 (EM))	Dec 2021

OUTCOME 2

1. Project Outcome (2)	Indicators	Relevant Subprogramme Expected Accomplishment and Indicator
<p>Outcome 2: CBC long-term vision and financial strategy, regionally-harmonised policies in place and, common biodiversity monitoring and management agreements adopted by countries</p>	<p>(1) CBC long-term vision and financial strategy developed Baseline 0 Target 1 long-term strategy developed by Ministerial Committee by month 24 Indicator SP4 (EG)</p> <p>(2) # of bilateral or multi-lateral monitoring agreements signed among countries Baseline 1 Target At least 3</p>	<p>PoW 2016- 2017</p> <p>SP4 (EG); EA (b) – Indicator (i), (ii)</p> <p>SP3 (EM); EA (c) – Indicator (ii)</p> <p>PoW 2018-2019</p> <p>SP4 (EG); EA (a) – Indicator (i), (ii), (iii)</p> <p>SP3 (EM); EA (a) – Indicator (i), (iii)</p> <p>POW 2020-2021:</p> <p>Environmental Governance; EA (a) - Indicators (i), (ii), (iii) - Output 6.</p> <p>Healthy and productive ecosystems; EA (a): Indicators (i), (iii) - Output 2.</p>
Project milestones that show progress towards achieving the project outcome		Expected Milestones (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)
M1 Draft CBC long-term vision and financial strategy (SP4 (EG))		Jun 2019
M2 Consultation workshop on draft CBC long-term vision, including its financial strategy (SP4 (EG))		Jun 2019
M3 Ministries of the environment of Cuba, Haiti and Dominican Republic endorse the regional CBC long-term vision including the financial strategy		Dec 2019
M4 Report on implementation of the regional long-term vision and financial strategy implementation		Jun 2021
M5 3 agreements signed among ministries of environment		Dec 2021
M6 Implementation of agreements		Jun 2022
M7 Report on agreements implementation		Jun 2022
2. Project Outputs	Indicators	
<p>2.1 CBC long-term vision and financial strategy adopted</p> <p>UMOJA reference: This output should be entered (WBSE) one time: one the subprogramme under which expenditures are reported</p>	<p>(1) # countries have discussed the CBC long-term vision, including the financial strategy Baseline 0 Target 3</p> <p>(2) Amount US dollars mobilized by the end of project based on a mix of national and international project portfolio Baseline Aprox. 5 US million dollars from previous actions</p>	

	Target 3-5 million US dollars mobilized by month 42 (**EU RF L2 #23) (*CRIP Sect 2 Obj 2 Ind 2) Indicator SP4 (EG)
Project output Milestones:	Expected Milestone (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)
M1 CBC long-term vision and financial strategy drafted and circulated for feedback (SP4 (EG))	Jun 2019
M2 Systematization of comments/suggestions on CBC long-term vision, including the financial strategy (SP4 (EG))	Jun 2019
M3 Submission of CBC long-term vision, including its financial strategy to technical and ministerial Committee (SP4 (EG))	Jun 2019
M4 Draft project portfolio to mobilize resources for the CBC (SP4 (EG))	Dec 2020
M5 Consultation workshop on draft project portfolio to mobilize resources for the CBC (SP4 (EG))	Jun 2021
M6 Project portfolio to mobilize resources for the CBC adopted (SP4 (EG))	Dec 2021
M7 2 projects that mobilize resources for the CBC (SP4 (EG))	Dec 2022
2. Project Outputs	Indicators
2.2 Regional biodiversity monitoring system developed and implemented, including the impact of climate change UMOJA reference: This output should be entered (WBSE) two times: one for each of the subprogrammes under which expenditures are reported	(1) # of regional biodiversity monitoring systems Baseline 0 Target 1 regional biodiversity monitoring system tested and validated including at least 10 species and 3 ecosystems considered critical for connectivity and adaptation to climate change by month 36 (** EU RF L2 #23) Indicator SP3 (EM) (2) # of national or local biodiversity monitoring systems coordinated among countries and integrated into the regional monitoring programme Baseline 0 Target At least 2 bi-national or tri-national monitoring coordination mechanisms established among PAs or biodiversity management agencies established or strengthened (** EU RF L2 #23) Indicator SP4 (EG)
Project output Milestones:	Expected Milestone (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)
M1 Biodiversity components to be monitored, identified (SP3 (EM))	Dec 2018
M2 1 National or local biodiversity monitoring systems integrated into the regional monitoring programme (SP3 (EM))	Jun 2019
M3 Another national or local biodiversity monitoring systems integrated into the regional monitoring programme (SP3 (EM))	Dec 2019
M4 2 bi-national or tri-national monitoring coordination mechanisms established among PAs or biodiversity management agencies established or strengthened (SP4 (EG))	Jun 2020
M5 1 regional biodiversity monitoring system tested and validated (SP4 (EG))	Dec 2020
M6 Monitoring reports of biodiversity components and processes that have adverse effect on the on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, from 3 countries (SP3 (EM))	Jun 2021
M7 Monitoring reports of biodiversity components and processes that have adverse effect on the on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, from 3 countries (SP3 (EM))	Jun 2022
2. Project Outputs	Indicators
2.3 Regionally	(1) # of national policies harmonized with a regional vision. Indicator SP4 (EG)

<p>harmonized policies and national management plans for key biodiversity conservation areas, including corridors, PAs and BRs, with shared common features, and agreements developed</p> <p>UMOJA reference: This output should be entered (WBSE) two times: one for each of the subprogrammes under which expenditures are reported</p>	<p>Baseline 0 Target 3</p> <p>(2) # of shared common features to be included in national management plans for key biodiversity conservation areas identified (* CRIP sec 2 Obj 2 Ind 2) (** EU RF L2 #23)</p> <p>Baseline No shared common features among Cuba, Haiti and Dominican Republic Target 6-10 shared common features formulated and agreed by month 18 Indicator SP3 (EM)</p> <p>(3) # of protected areas management plans incorporating regional elements. Baseline 0 Target 1 to 2 management plans (with cross-reference to regional aspects and connectivity) per country formulated and adopted by month 36 Indicator SP3 (EM)</p>
<p>Project output Milestones:</p>	<p>Expected Milestone (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)</p>
<p>M1 Review of selected management plan (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Dec 2020</p>
<p>M2 A set of recommendations to reformulated one management plan formulated and provided to PA authority (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Dec 2020</p>
<p>M3 Consultation on regional harmonized policy (SP4 (EG))</p>	<p>Jun 2021</p>
<p>M4 Review of selected management plan (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Jun 2021</p>
<p>M5 Another set of recommendations to reformulate a second management plan formulated and provided to PA authority (SP3 (EM))</p>	<p>Dec 2021</p>
<p>M6 Regionally harmonized policies (SP4 (EG))</p>	<p>Dec 2020</p>
<p>M7 Report on regionally harmonized policies and plans implementation (SP4 (EG))</p>	<p>Dec 2022</p>

OUTCOME 3

1. Project Outcome (3)	Indicators	Relevant Subprogramme Expected Accomplishment and Indicator
<p>Outcome 3: Governments and stakeholders, including private sector increase their contribution to and implementation of field projects that address the regional vision of biodiversity conservation</p>	<p>(1) # of formal partnerships between governments and the business sector/civil society or the CBC Secretariat and the business sector/ civil society signed. Baseline 0 Target At least 2 partnerships Indicator SP4 (EG)</p>	<p>PoW 2016- 2017 SP4 (EG); EA (b) – Indicator (iii)</p>
	<p>(2) # of field projects linked to the CBC supported by business sector/civil society involvement in line with the CBC Initiative ** EU RF Level 2 #25) Baseline 0 Target: 3 projects. Indicator SP3 (EM)</p>	<p>PoW 2018-2019 SP3 (EM); EA (b) – Indicator (i)</p> <p>POW 2020-2021: Healthy and productive ecosystems; EA (b): Indicator (i) - Output 1 and Output 4</p>
<p>Project milestones that show progress towards achieving the project outcome</p>		<p>Expected Milestones (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)</p>
<p>M1 Assessment on current field projects dedicated by business sector/civil society to biodiversity and adaptation to climate change (SP3 (EM))</p>		<p>Jun 2020</p>
<p>M2 1 Field project devoted by business sector/civil society to biodiversity and adaptation to climate change in line with the CBC Initiative (SP3 (EM))</p>		<p>Jun 2020</p>
<p>M3 1 Formal partnership between governments and the business sector/civil society or the CBC Secretariat and the business sector/civil society signed (SP4 (EG))</p>		<p>Dec 2019</p>
<p>M4 1 Field project devoted by business sector/civil society to biodiversity and adaptation to climate change in line with the CBC Initiative (SP3 (EM))</p>		<p>Jun 2021</p>
<p>M5 1 Formal partnership between governments and the business sector/civil society or the CBC Secretariat and the business sector/civil society signed (SP4 (EG))</p>		<p>Dec 2020</p>
<p>M6 Field project devoted by business sector/civil society to biodiversity and adaptation to climate change in line with the CBC Initiative (SP3 (EM))</p>		<p>Jun 2022</p>
<p>M7 1 Formal partnership between governments and the business sector/civil society or the CBC Secretariat and the business sector/civil society signed (SP4 (EG))</p>		<p>Jun 2022</p>
2. Project Outputs	Indicators	
<p>3. 1 Technical advice to governments, stakeholders and private sector for field projects selection, design and implementation provided</p> <p>UMOJA reference: This output should be entered (WBSE) one time: one the subprogramme under which expenditures are reported</p>	<p>(1) # of field projects implemented Baseline 10 from previous action Target 3 Projects selected by month 12 and initiated by month 18 and finalized by month 48 Indicator SP3 (EM)</p>	
<p>Project output Milestones:</p>		<p>Expected Milestone (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)</p>
<p>M1 Identify priority areas for the development of local actions (SP3 (EM))</p>		<p>Dec 2018</p>
<p>M2 Develop and launch a call for proposals (SP3 (EM))</p>		<p>Dec 2018</p>

M3 Evaluate and approve proposals (SP3 (EM))	Jun 2019
M4 Develop agreements to implement the actions (SP3 (EM))	Dec 2020
M5 Report on implementation of actions (SP3 (EM))	Jun 2021
M6 Report on implementation of actions (SP3 (EM))	Dec 2021
M7 Evaluate the implementation of actions (SP3 (EM))	Jun 2022
2. Project Outputs	Indicators
3.2 CBC Livelihood actions (field projects) linked to private sector, including gender analysis UMOJA reference: This output should be entered (WBSE) one time: one the subprogramme under which expenditures are reported	(1) # of projects of business sector/ civil society for regional biodiversity conservation (** EU RF Level 2 #25) Baseline 0 Target 2 projects (2) # of private actors that have received and applied technical assistance to reduce negative impacts and create positive linkages between business and biodiversity (** EU RF Level 2 #25) Baseline 0 Target At least 6 Indicator SP3 (EM) (3) # of formal and informal partnerships (co-management agreements or MOUs) between the private sector and other actors in conservation and sustainable use activities at regional, national and local levels (** EU RF Level 2 # 25) Baseline 0 Target At least 6 agreements or MOUs with private sector by month 36 Indicator SP3 (EM)
Project output Milestones:	Expected Milestone (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)
M1 Field projects developed by business sector/Civil Society are identified (SP3 (EM))	Jun 2019
M2 Partnerships (co-management agreements or MOUs) between the private sector and other actor (SP4 (EG))	Dec 2019
M3 Partnerships (co-management agreements or MOUs) between the private sector and other actor (SP4 (EG))	Jun 2020
M4 Field projects evaluated (SP3 (EM))	Dec 2020
M5 Partnerships (co-management agreements or MOUs) between the private sector and other actor (SP4 (EG))	Dec 2021
M6 Partnerships (co-management agreements or MOUs) between the private sector and other actor (SP4 (EG))	Jun 2022
M7 Report on assessment of impact of field projects developed by business sector/Civil Society on CBC objectives (SP3 (EM))	Dec 2022
2. Project Outputs	Indicators
3.3 Public information campaign on livelihoods, biodiversity, climate change mitigation and, opportunities with private sector linkages conducted	(1) # of information products developed in Spanish, French and English (articles in internet and press, TV news/reportage, radio news/reportage, video, leaflets, brochures, posters, social media) Baseline 0 Target At least 25 by month 24 and 50 by end of project Indicator SP3 (EM)

UMOJA reference: This output should be entered (WBSE) one time: one the subprogramme under which expenditures are reported	(2) # of persons and organizations reached Baseline 0 Target At least 50 by month 24 and 150 by end of project Indicator SP3 (EM)
Project output Milestones:	Expected Milestone (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)
M1 Information product in Spanish, French and English (SP3 (EM))	Jun 2019
M2 Report on persons and organizations reached (SP3 (EM))	Jun 2019
M3 Information product in Spanish, French and English (SP3 (EM))	Dec 2019
M4 Report on persons and organizations reached (SP3 (EM))	Jun 2020
M5 Information product in Spanish, French and English (SP3 (EM))	Dec 2020
M6 Report on persons and organizations reached (SP3 (EM))	Jun 2021
M7 Information product in Spanish, French and English (SP3 (EM))	Dec 2021

OUTCOME 4

1. Project Outcome (4)	Indicators	Relevant Subprogramme Expected Accomplishment and Indicator
Outcome 4: Management of the project in line with the contribution agreement and UN Environment best practice	# of Ministerial Committee (MC) meetings held per year Target 5 (one per year) # of MC decisions actioned Target 12 in the course of project Annual risk assessment review Target 4 # of midterm and final evaluations Target 2	POW 2020-2021: Environmental Governance; EA (a); Indicators (i), (ii), (iii); Output 6.
Project milestones that show progress towards achieving the project outcome		Expected Milestones (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)
M1 Progress report produced for the donor & PIMS reporting cycle completed		Dec 2018
M2 Progress report produced for the donor & PIMS reporting cycle completed		Dec 2019
M3 Mid-term review		Dec 2019
M4 Progress report produced for the donor & PIMS reporting cycle completed		Dec 2020
M5 Progress report produced for the donor & PIMS reporting cycle completed		Dec 2021
M6 Final report progress for the donor & PIMS reporting cycle completed		Dec 2022
M7 Final evaluation		Dec 2022

WORK PLAN -See Table 9: Project Work Plan – separate document

Annex 2. Budget – See separate document

Annex 3. Proof of secured funds

The EU has agreed to contribute Euros 3.5 million which is the total cost of the project.

Annex 4. Main steps in project design process

Early 2015, the Secretariat of the CBC together with UN Environment/ROLAC drafted a 3-page concept note for the consideration of the Caribbean Forum (CARIFORUM) under the Caribbean Regional Indicative Programme / 11th cycle of the European Development Fund (EDF) and via DIGECOM/ Dominican Republic (Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development).

CARIFORUM gave its green light and thus the Secretariat of the CBC together with UN Environment/OLAC proceeded to develop a full concept note (not yet the project doc).

The process to develop the concept note took into account:

- The results of the V technical and ministerial meeting of the previous CBC project (2010-2014)
- The final evaluation of the previous project CBC (April 2015).
- The preparation of a note on the proposed process to develop the second phase of the CBC for feedback from the CBC national focal points in the ministries of the Environment of Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic and other actors. Such roadmap was agreed including the questionnaire mentioned in the next point.
- Responses to an online questionnaire in Spanish, English and French located on the CBC website (<http://www.cbcnuma.org/es/content/dise%C3%B1o-de-una-nueva-etapa-the-project-runner-biol%C3%B3gico-in-the-caribbean-2016-2020>; <http://www.cbcnuma.org/en/content/design-new-phase-caribbean-biological-corridor-project-2016%E2%80%932020>; <http://www.cbcnuma.org/fr/content/conception-d%E2%80%99une-nouvelle-%C3%A9tape-du-projet-corridor-biologique-dans-la-sided%C3%AFBE-2016-2020>).
- Sending the link of the questionnaire to all ministers of environment of the English-speaking Caribbean countries and several non-governmental organizations in the region.
- Regular iteration with the EU Delegation in the Dominican Republic.

In October 2015, the draft concept note was circulated to the CBC focal points in the Dominican Republic, Cuba and Haiti for their feedback, also to UN Environment relevant officers and Offices.

In November, the draft concept note was submitted to CARIFORUM by DIGECOM/Dominican Republic.

Early December, CARICOM provided feedback and a second version was circulated which incorporated comments or clarified points raised by CARIFORUM was circulated to CBC national focal points.

On 22 December, a third version of the draft concept note was submitted to CARIFORUM by DIGECOM/Dominican Republic.

In parallel, the UN Environment/OLAC Programme Management Officer submitted the draft concept note to UN Environment/CRC early December. CRC discussed it on 16 December 2015. The report was issued on 28 December 2015 with a positive review and with comments which have been taken into account in the full project document.

Early January 2016, CARIFORUM approved the full concept note. Therefore, the full project document could be developed for the consideration and approval of the EU Quality Committee in Brussels. The EU Delegation in the Dominican Republic provided the EU project format to present the project (ANNEX 2 of the Commission Decision on the Annual Action Programme 2016 - Action Document).

Thereinafter, the Secretariat of the CBC and UN Environment/OLAC had several iterations via email with CBC national focal points as well as the DIGECOM / Dominican Republic, the EU (including Delegations in Cuba, Haiti and Dominican Republic).

On 1st of June 2016, there was a final consultation meeting in the Dominican Republic with the participation of the CBC national focal points, DIGECOM and the EU Delegation in DR.

On June 22, 2016, the project document was approved by a second meeting of the EU Quality Committee.

On 20 September 2016, another EU body gave the final green light to the project and to proceed with presentation of the detailed budget and preparation of the contribution agreement between UN Environment and the EU.

UN Environment /OLAC Programme Management Officer has also updated regularly UN Environment/QAS and other UN Environment relevant officers (including Environmental Governance and Ecosystem Management subprogrammes, UN Environment CAR/RCU, UN Environment Haiti) on the development process of the project.

Annex 5. Draft donor agreements – See separate document

Annex 6. Environmental and social safeguards

The project design incorporates measures to achieve positive environmental and social impacts.

The Technical Committee participation in planning, implementation and monitoring will be an important mechanism to ensure that the project reflects the social and environmental reality. Moreover, the mechanisms for information dissemination to all project partners and stakeholders on the progress of implementation and to obtain their feedback will allow a continuous assessment of the work being done by the project in regards to the social and environmental specificities of the

intervention areas. The Ministerial Committee will endorse and further guide the project throughout its life.

The project will prepare a M&E Plan with the objective of providing accurate and timely information as well as feedback, on the implementation and performance of the project.

See UN Environment Social and Environmental Checklist (separate document)

Annex 7. Initial criteria for the selection of field projects

The following criteria will be used in the evaluation and selection of projects submitted for execution under the auspices of the Caribbean Biological Corridor and with partial funding of the CBC project (2016-2020):

- **relevance:** the selected field project sites and the activities carried out should contribute directly to the central objective of the management of biological connectivity, for example, by protecting critical habitats for migratory species or by managing shared ecosystems and cross-border;
- **Innovation and samples:** projects must be truly experimental, testing new approaches or instruments, especially in areas where there is a need for innovation, such as: the links between biodiversity and livelihoods, collaborations, co-management, community participation and participation of the private sector;
- **samples and communication:** projects must be designed and executed as true case studies, with the baseline information collected and analyzed at the beginning of the intervention, the hypotheses and research questions clearly defined, the results duly documented and a mechanism of dissemination of learning identified from the beginning;
- **sustainability:** there must be conditions for projects to be sustained beyond the period during which they will be supported by the CBC, with adequate local capacity to sustain them or with clear and realistic plans to build such capacity;
- **feasibility:** projects must have realistic objectives and feasibility must be adequately evaluated before making a decision on the possible inclusion of a field project in the work program. Complex projects should be avoided, except when there is a clear capacity on the ground to apply them;
- **cost-benefit ratio:** the investment in time and money should be proportional to the expected contribution of the project on the ground to the CBC Initiative as a whole, and preference should be given to projects that are likely to produce significant results with limited effort.