**Disclaimer: This document does not include all the details of the BluEFin ProDoc, but is meant to be used as a summary of the most essential information regarding the beneficiary countries’ baseline and projected role and contributions to the project.**

**For more details, refer to the ProDoc here** [BluEFin Prodoc 08.12.22 FNL.docx](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MxSIBrY9wfFz2l-Yap-CtLFx0OT1Ff5i/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=116245533169099985115&rtpof=true&sd=true)

[**Fact Sheet 1**](#_xwszqn8dsqxi)

[**Logical Framework 2**](#_4wl9i9fcxzbe)

[**Workplan and timeline 6**](#_r7l941q08om0)

[**Dominican Republic 11**](#_53kd3arw3u3o)

[**Grenada 14**](#_ndf5hb1x3bkp)

[**Saint Lucia 16**](#_zfqzhcdcgus8)

[**Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 19**](#_edqysn3hzi2n)

[**The Bahamas 22**](#_1k9xbdfylu28)

# Fact Sheet

| **Project title** | Caribbean Blue Economy Financing Project (Caribbean BluEFin) |
| --- | --- |
| **Project number** | 10782 |
| **PIMS number** | … |
| **Project type** | FSP |
| **Trust fund** | GEF-TF |
| **Strategic objectives** | GEF-7 International Waters Strengthening Blue Economy opportunities Sustaining healthy coastal and marine ecosystems. |
| **UNEP priority** | Nature Action sub-programme |
| **Mode of execution** | External |
| **Start date** | April 2023 |
| **Duration** | 48 months  |
| **GEF Budget** | $6,000,000 |
| **Co-financed budget** | $40,170,000 (Grants: $32,670,000 & In-kind: $7,500,000) |
| **Implementing agency** | United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) |
| **Executing agency** | Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF) |
| **Beneficiary countries** | Dominican Republic, Grenada, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, The Bahamas |

# Logical Framework

The project objective is **to create and strengthen nature-based Blue Economy opportunities and approaches in the Caribbean through innovative financing mechanisms.**

| **Components** | **Outcomes** | **Outputs** | **Activities** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Barrier 1: Need for support to establish sustainable finance mechanisms** |
| 1. Utilising blue economy principles to develop regional Caribbean Ocean financial mechanisms (FMs), with a focus on private and productive sector partnerships | 1.1. Improved access to funding through Blue Economy interventions and generation of resources from regional financial mechanisms targeting national and regional marine and coastal priorities | 1.1.1: By project end, at least 3 regional Ocean FMs generating a total of at least $300k- $600k per year thereafter for large-scale, long-term and reliable funding that prioritises marine and sustainable use of coastal biodiversity and other ocean resources, including transboundary resources, through the deployment of innovative financial instruments | 1.1.1.1: Implementation of priority FMs roadmaps1.1.1.2: Launch of FMs and kick-off operation |
| **Barrier 2: Poor enabling environment for private sector investment** |
| 2. Enabling systems created and supported in order to facilitate private sector participation in Caribbean Blue Economy opportunities | 2.1. Improved business practices and enabling policies for Private Sector participation in blue economy and business opportunities | 2.1.1: Incentives and interest created in Blue economy and business opportunities targeting at least 2 economic sectors that have impacts on marine and coastal ecosystems | 2.1.1.1: Create a regional working group (WG) with private and public sector representatives to discuss needs and opportunities in the region for facilitated dialogues2.1.1.2: Carry out a series of facilitated dialogues in each of the five countries and in regional events targeting sectors and opportunities defined by the WG |
|  |  | 2.1.2: Engagement is facilitated with governments and other governance/coordination mechanisms in targeted economic sectors, to discuss enabling conditions and policies for the Blue Economy | 2.1.2.1: Develop indicators, through a partnership with an academic/financial partner, to assess the enabling policies for the Blue Economy in each project country2.1.2.2: Provide recommendations for governments and other governance/ coordination mechanisms on how to improve the ease of doing business in the Blue Economy index in each country and regionally2.1.2.3: Support governments and other governance/ coordination mechanisms to participate in national and regional dialogues with the private sector to facilitate that they review their policies to favour Blue Economy activities in their countries |
| **Barrier 3: Inadequate decision-support tools** |
| 3. A regionally based Blue Economy Hub developed to provide socioeconomic opportunities which support marine and coastal conservation and sustainable use | 3.1. Information on blue economy and business opportunities in the Caribbean is available to encourage new partnerships and investments that improve marine and coastal biodiversity conservation and sustainable use | 3.1.1: The Caribbean Blue Economy Hub is designed and made available online showcasing Information on business opportunities | 3.1.1.1: Design the Caribbean Blue Economy Hub to be a clearinghouse mechanism on Blue Economy business opportunities in the Caribbean3.1.1.2: Develop an online portal and database to register opportunities3.1.1.3: Populate the Hub with opportunities collected with CBF partners, through the facilitated dialogues and from other databases, such as the TNC Mapping Ocean Wealth project |
|  |  | 3.1.2: At least 4 business opportunities identified in the Blue Economy Hub in project countries are supported so that the leading organizations have resources to implement the required interventions and achieve planned milestones | 3.1.2.1: Project Steering Committee (PSC) selects 4 opportunities (new technologies, enterprises seeking investments, and case studies) that have clear and quantified interventions (new partnerships, new projects, new research, new investments)3.1.2.2: CBF signs agreements with implementing organisations and make sub-grants, according to specific procedures approved by the PSC, including clear milestones3.1.2.3: CBF monitors interventions supported according to the milestones established |
|  |  | 3.1.3: The Caribbean Blue Economy Hub is updated regularly, promoted through the project activities and its contribution to promoting new interventions is assessed | 3.1.3.1: CBF defines an institutional structure to keep the Hub updated3.1.3.2: Present the Caribbean Blue Economy Hub in the national and regional facilitated dialogues promoted by the project3.1.3.3: Develop study to assess the contribution of the information collected through the Blue Economy Hub to the implementation of interventions in the region (new partnerships, new projects, new research, new investments) |
| **Barrier 4: Lack of significant actions at the sub-regional and regional scale** |
| 4. Socialising, scaling, and replication of the BluEFin approach regionally | 4.1. Increased knowledge about blue economy business opportunities, valuation and decision tools and sustainable finance mechanisms socialised with relevant stakeholders to replicate and scale-up BE initiatives in the Caribbean | 4.1.1: Knowledge sharing and learning activities delivered through a Caribbean Community of Learning in Conservation Finance | 4.1.1.1: Establish a network/ working group of Caribbean organisations working on conservation finance (mailing list, shared online drive)4.1.1.2: Carry out knowledge sharing and learning workshops to socialise the contents and results of the BluEFin project4.1.1.3: Produce case studies and factsheets about the interventions and financial mechanisms supported by the project4.1.1.4: Present the project knowledge products at international conferences |
| 5. Monitoring and Evaluation | 5.1. Efficient and timely project execution, monitoring and evaluation process carried out in support of Components 1 to 4 activities, and corresponding improvement of project execution as appropriate | 5.1.1: Documented monitoring and reporting process throughout the entire project execution life cycle ensuring project activities under Components 1 to 4 are on the right track | 5.1.1.1: Kick-off project implementation through the project inception meeting5.1.1.2: Carry out project oversight and governance through the functioning of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) |
|  |  | 5.1.2: Independent evaluations documenting the process of collecting and analyzing information in order to understand the progress, success, and effectiveness of project activities | 5.1.2.1: Hire project mid-term and final evaluation, including an assessment of the implementation of the Gender Mainstreaming Plan |

# Workplan and timeline

A Workplan has been devised for each outcome-related activity, indicating the time periods through which each activity will take place. The workplan is presented for the activities within the four components, indicating the outcomes and outputs they are linked to (corresponding with the project Results Framework). The workplan further includes a section that shows the time periods over which the project’s reporting requirements will be carried out and met, to illustrate the work that will be undertaken by the Project Coordinator as described in the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (Appendix 5).

| **BluEFin Workplan and Timeline** | **Y1** | **Y2** | **Y3** | **Y4** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
| **Comp 1** | **Outcome 1.1** | **Output 1.1.1** | Activity 1.1.1.1: Implementation of priority FMs roadmaps |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activity 1.1.1.2: Launch of FMs and kick-off operation |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Comp 2** | **Outcome 2.1** | **Output 2.1.1** | Activity 2.1.1.1: Create a regional working group (WG) with private and public sector representatives to discuss needs and opportunities in the region for facilitated dialogues |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activity 2.1.1.2: Carry out a series of facilitated dialogues in each of the five countries and in regional events targeting sectors and opportunities defined by the WG  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Output 2.1.2** | Activity 2.1.2.1: Develop indicators, through a partnership with an academic/financial partner, to assess the enabling conditions for the Blue Economy in each project country |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activity 2.1.2.2: Provide recommendations for governments and other governance/ coordination mechanisms on how to improve the enabling conditions for the Blue Economy index in each country and regionally |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activity 2.1.2.3: Support governments and other governance/ coordination mechanisms to participate in national and regional dialogues with the private sector to facilitate that they review their policies to favour Blue Economy activities in their countries |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Comp 3** | **Outcome 3.1** | **Output 3.1.1** | Activity 3.1.1.1: Design the Caribbean Blue Economy Hub to be a clearinghouse mechanism on Blue Economy business opportunities in the Caribbean |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activity 3.1.1.2: Develop an online portal and database to register opportunities |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activity 3.1.1.3: Populate the Hub with opportunities collected with CBF partners, through the facilitated dialogues and from other databases, such as the TNC Mapping Ocean Wealth project |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Output 3.1.2** | Activity 3.1.2.1: Project Steering Committee (PSC) selects 4 opportunities (new technologies, enterprises seeking investments, and case studies) that have clear and quantified interventions (new partnerships, new projects, new research, new investments) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activity 3.1.2.2: CBF signs agreements with implementing organisations and make sub-grants, according to specific procedures approved by the PSC, including clear milestones |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activity 3.1.2.3: CBF monitors interventions supported according to the milestones established |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Output 3.1.3** | Activity 3.1.3.1: CBF defines an institutional structure to keep the Hub updated |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activity 3.1.3.2: Present the Caribbean Blue Economy Hub in the national and regional facilitated dialogues promoted by the project |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activity 3.1.3.3: Develop study to assess the contribution of the information collected through the Blue Economy Hub to the implementation of interventions in the region (new partnerships, new projects, new research, new investments) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Comp 4** | **Outcome 4.1** | **Output 4.1.1** | Activity 4.1.1.1: Establish a network/ working group of Caribbean organisations working on conservation finance (mailing list, shared online drive) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activity 4.1.1.2: Carry out knowledge sharing and learning workshops to socialise the contents and results of the BluEFin project |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activity 4.1.1.3: Produce case studies and factsheets about the interventions and financial mechanisms supported by the project  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activity 4.1.1.4: Present the project knowledge products at international conferences |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Comp 5** | **Outcome 5.1** | **Output 5.1.1** | Activity 5.1.1.1: Kick-off project implementation through the project inception meeting |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activity 5.1.1.2: Carry out project oversight and governance through the functioning of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Output 5.1.2** | Activity 5.1.2.1: Hire project mid-term and final evaluation, including an assessment of the implementation of the Gender Mainstreaming Plan |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Workplan and timeline for reporting responsibilities (Component 5)**

The following table highlights the time periods during which key reports will be prepared and delivered by the Project Coordinator, and periods for project review and terminal evaluation. Technical reports and project publications aren’t included (see Appendix 5 for details).

| **Reporting timeline** | **Y1** | **Y2** | **Y3** | **Y4** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
| Inception Report |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Quarterly Progress Reports |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project Implementation Review |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project Terminal Report |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mid-term review Report |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Final Evaluation |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

# Dominican Republic

1. The Dominican Republic is the second largest nation in the Caribbean, with 11 million inhabitants, sharing the island of Hispaniola with Haiti and spanning a total land area of 48,671 km2 and total marine area of 370,973 km2 (to limit of exclusive economic zone). The Dominican Republic includes ecosystems such as evergreen forests in the highlands, desert zones with sand dunes, and fertile valleys abundant with flora.According to the Global Climate Risk Index, the Dominican Republic was ranked the eighth most vulnerable country to climate change in the world. This is due largely to the country’s exposure to storms, cyclones, floods, and landslides as well as sea-level rise and desertification. For example, over 95,004 people were displaced as a result of natural disasters from 2008-2014, and some coastal communities have already been relocated due to sea-level rise and erosion. Additionally, the Dominican Republic is vulnerable to water pollution from mining, industrial production, and agricultural run-off.
2. Historically, the Dominican Republic’s economy has been dominated by manufacturing in areas such as textiles and garments. More recently, however, the country has shifted from an economy rooted in manufacturing, to one centred around services and tourism. In fact, the Dominican Republic has been the fastest-growing economy in Latin America on average from 2010 to 2019, marked by significant growth in remittances from the diasporic population in the United States, foreign direct investment and strengthening commercial relations with countries like the United States and China, and tourism. According to the OECD, the number of annual tourists has more than doubled from 3.3 to 7.2 million from 2000 to 2018, accounting for 8.5% of total employment in the country.The country has become the largest destination for tourism in the Caribbean, although income generated per tourist (1,150 USD) still lags behind other countries in the region including Costa Rica and Panama (1,310 USD and 2,415 USD, respectively).
3. Despite the promising opportunities within the tourism sector, concerns have also arisen around the long-term sustainability of the industry. According to the World Travel and Tourism Council, growth in tourism has been predominantly concentrated in coastal areas which are increasingly vulnerable due to climate change and extreme weather events like hurricanes. The implications of extreme weather events on the industry and livelihoods can be devastating—it is estimated that the hurricane season in 2017 brought an estimated direct economic loss of 52 million USD. Although GDP growth has remained strong relative compared to other countries in the region, it is evident that there is room for improvement in how these gains are distributed—about 21.0% of the population currently lives below the national poverty line.

| **Legal Framework** | **Institutions** | **Policies** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| * Protected Areas and Biodiversity Law No. 202-04
* Environmental and Natural Resources Law No. 64-00 (the Environmental Law), establishes the basic principles of environmental protection, management, use of natural resources, and civil and criminal liabilities
* General Law 225-20 on Integrated Management and Coprocessing of Waste in the Dominican Republic
* Executive Order 571-09, created new protected areas
* Environmental Law and Renewable Energy Law No. 57-07, established fiscal incentives for projects that protect the environment
* National Policy for Climate Change, Decree 269-15
 | * Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
* Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
* Ministry of Tourism
* National Office of Planning (ONAPLAN)
* Subsecretariat of Coastal and Marine Resources and Subsecretariat of Environmental Management under the Secretariat of Environment (SEMARN)
* Tourism Secretariat (SECTUR)
* Dominican Foundation of Marine Studies (FUNDEMAR), an NGO that works on protecting and conserving Dominican marine life
* Fondo MARENA, NCTF partner of the CBF. It is a public fund, under the coordination of the Ministry of Environment, with financial and administrative autonomy
 | * Roadmap for Low Carbon and Resource Efficient Accommodation in the Dominican Republic, 2019 report collaborating with the UNEP to improve sustainability of the tourism sector
* Dominican Republic Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2011-2030
 |

**National Conservation Trust Fund (NCTF) in the country:** Dominican Republic - Fondo MARENA. A well-established NCTF since 2009, Fondo MARENA has been a CBF partner since December 2016. In addition to awarding grants for a number of years, with several grants to support marine conservation in the past two years, Fondo MARENA is actively pursuing potential sustainable finance mechanisms to expand its capital base. Differently from the other CBF partners, Fondo MARENA is a public institution, linked to the Ministry of Environment. It has a majority non-governmental governance and financial and administrative autonomy, but it has some restrictions in terms of investment options due to its public nature.

**Relevant projects**

1. The Dominican Republic has the largest marine protected areas system in the region. Tourism in the Dominican Republic is generally based on mass tourism, with many all-inclusive hotels in the key tourism zones. However, the industry has been making progress on sustainability in recent years. Over a dozen hotels in the country are now GreenGlobe certified, representing an important commitment to sustainability. A limited number of small-scale blue economy livelihood projects have been implemented in the country in recent years, such as mangrove kayak tourism in Samana Bay under the USAID-funded Caribbean Marine Biodiversity Program.
2. Conserving Biodiversity in Coastal Areas Threatened by Rapid Tourism and Physical Infrastructure Development was a GEF-funded project implemented by UNDP and executed by the Ministry of Tourism and Ministry of Environment. The project was designed to address the impacts of unsustainable coastal tourism on biodiversity in the Dominican Republic’s coastal zone.
3. The Dominican Republic Ministry of Environment is implementing the GEF-funded project Integrated Landscape Management in Dominican Republic Watersheds, from 2021 to 2026, with the World Bank as implementing agency. The project is terrestrial, with components that focus on Integrated Land Management and Land Degradation Neutrality, water use efficiency, and biodiversity conservation in agriculture, and Restoration of biodiversity and hydrological services in critical ecosystems. Some project activities may be relevant to the marine and coastal environment, considering ridge-to-reef approach and effects. Another GEF-funded project implemented by the Ministry of Environment is focused on strengthening the capacities of the country to meet enhanced transparency requirements as defined in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. Although not directly related to marine and coastal resources, this project will strengthen the environmental institutions’ capacities, benefiting other projects and national efforts for conservation.
4. One of the largest companies operating hotels and other accommodations, Grupo Puntacana has a long history of marine conservation and related activities, as mentioned in section 2.4.6 above. TNC and the Puntacana Foundation have been actively collaborating on coral restoration and exploring the feasibility of a coral reef insurance instrument. Puntacana Foundation also has a mangrove restoration project with the support of the CBF EbA Facility.
5. As mentioned before, Blue Finance has a co-management agreement for an MPA and is implementing its self-sustaining model through the establishment of different revenue streams, including eco-tourism.

**Relevance to national priorities and development strategies**

1. The 2020 NDC for the Dominican Republic targets 7 adaptation measures including "climate change adaptation investment priorities" and "contribution of adaptation measures to other frameworks and/or international conventions". The BluEFin project will also address the targeted SDGs noted in the NDCs: low levels of multidimensional poverty, competitiveness and decent employment, sustainable production and consumption, resilient populations facing climate change and other risks, and solid and inclusive public institutions.
2. The DR's National Development Strategy (2010-2030) and NBSAP (2011-2020) are mutually supportive. In parallel with the preparation of the NBSAP, the National Red List of Threatened Species of Flora and Fauna and the National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species were also prepared, and the Endemic and Native Seeds Bank established. The National System of Protected Areas (SINAP) has been strengthened through the implementation of SINAP’s Master Plan (2010-2030) and, in terms of sustainable conservation financing, the establishment of an Endowment Fund for Protect Areas.
3. Additionally, this project is also relevant to the Roadmap for Low Carbon and Resource Efficient Accommodation in the Dominican Republic, 2019 report collaborating with the UNEP to improve sustainability of the tourism sector.

# Grenada

1. Grenada has a population of 112 thousand people, and includes the volcanic islands of Grenada, Carriacou, and Petite Martinique with a total land area of 344 km2 and a coastline of 121 km. Grenada has 25,571 km2 of total marine area (to limit of exclusive economic zone). The nation includes landscapes including several streams that cross the main island, small bays, mountain ranges, and dense forests with bodies of freshwater that provide a basis for the ecotourism industry. Grenada faces distinct risks related to climate change, including hurricanes, rising sea levels, and heavy precipitation events that can lead to flooding.
2. Colloquially, the nation has been referred to as the “spice island” largely for its significant exports of spices including mace, nutmeg, cinnamon, and cloves. In fact, Grenada is the second largest producer of nutmeg after Indonesia, contributing to more than 20% of the world’s total nutmeg production. Furthermore, the majority of farms in Grenada are small holder in nature, making farmers particularly susceptible to extreme weather conditions and fluctuations in environmental conditions. Besides agriculture, the nation’s economy largely centres around tourism—In 2019, travel and tourism contributed 55.8% of Grenada’s GDP. Manufacturing industries also exist but are not as significant to the total GDP and employment.
3. Similar to many other Caribbean Island nation states, substantive and recent measurements on indicators such as poverty rate remain sparse. As of 2017, estimates put the Grenada poverty rate at around 32%. The nation also has the highest extreme poverty rate in the Eastern Caribbean, with a rate of 13% as of 2017.

| **Legal Framework** | **Institutions** | **Policies** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| * Non-Biodegradable Waste Control Act, No. 9, 2018
* Territorial Waters Act, No. 17 of 1978
* Beach Protection Amendment Act of 2009
* Physical Planning and Development Control Act, No. 25 of 2002
* Litter Abatement Act of 1973
* Waste Management Act No. 16 of 2001
* Solid Waste Management Act No. 11 of 1995
* National Parks and Protected Areas Act of 1991
* Environmental Levy Act No. 5 of 1997
* Fisheries Act of 1986
 | * Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources, Physical Planning & Fisheries
* Ministry of Health and Social Security
* National Trust
* Physical Planning Department
 | * National Climate Change Policy for Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique (2017-2021)
* Grenada Policy for Sustainable Land Management
* National Forest Policy and Strategic Plan
* National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, 2016-2020
* Blue Growth Coastal Master Plan, laying out key principles and goals around environmental sustainability, sustainable livelihoods, and good governance
* Maritime Economy Plan (2021)
 |

**National Conservation Trust Fund (NCTF) in the country:** Grenada Sustainable Development Trust Fund (GSDTF). The GSDTF became a CBF partner in June 2019 and it is starting to give grants in the country, after a first call for proposals was issued in 2021. It was established under the GEF-funded “Sustainable Financing and Management of Eastern Caribbean Marine Ecosystems” project, with the technical support of the CBF and of TNC. As the other NCTFs, the fund is actively pursuing potential finance mechanisms to expand its capital base. Although the GSDTF has a non-governmental majority Board, it maintains a close relationship with the government and the GEF focal point sits in its Board.

**Relevant projects**

1. Tourism is a critical economic driver in Grenada which, in recent years (pre COVID-19 pandemic), has seen a surge in visitor arrivals. Realizing this, and in order to sustainably manage its “blue” assets, the government has taken steps towards developing a blue growth national plan and strategy in order to maximize economic benefits. This plan outlines an approach for development that will improve the sustainability of productive activity at land and at sea so as to benefit the tourism sector, fishermen, farmers, agribusinesses, education and research.
2. Besides the GEF-funded regional projects focusing the Eastern Caribbean and benefiting Grenada, the Department of Economic and Technical Cooperation (DETC) of the Ministry of Finance is implementing a national GEF project focused on Climate Resilient Agriculture. Although it is a terrestrial project, the effects of a more sustainable agriculture sector will reduce sedimentation and run-off to the ocean. It is relevant to follow results of this project, which is planned to finish at the end of 2022.

**Relevance to national priorities and development strategies**

1. The Grenada NDC targets the following sectors: Energy (including domestic transport) - Forestry - Waste - IPPU (cooling sector). Grenada anticipates implementing the NDC through access to multilateral and bilateral support including through the Green Climate Fund, multilateral agencies, and bilateral arrangements with development partners. These funds will be used to leverage the limited national resources and technical capacities that are available for combating climate change.
2. Grenada’s revised NBSAP (2016-2020) was prepared against the backdrop of the current Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and its Aichi Targets and in parallel with the fifth national report completed in 2014. The revised NBSAP also builds upon the first NBSAP adopted in 2000. National priority targets have been set focusing on five themes: i) CEPA, valuation, infusion of biodiversity in national programming and decision-making; ii) integration and mainstreaming across all decision-making levels; iii) sharing and applying biodiversity knowledge, science and technology and building national capacity; iv) making adequate resources available and fully implementing the NBSAP; and v) restoring and sustainably managing key national terrestrial and marine ecosystems (priority ecosystems are forest, agriculture, freshwater and coastal and marine).
3. Additionally, this project is also relevant to the following policies, programmes and plans:
* National Sustainable Development Plan 2030
* National Environment Policy and Management Strategy
* National Climate Change Policy
* Maritime Economy Plan

# Saint Lucia

1. Saint Lucia is a fertile island country formed by volcanic activity in the Caribbean Sea with a total land area of approximately 616 km2 with a total coastline of 158 km, home for a population of 183 thousand people. Its total marine area has 15,413 km2. Its closest neighbours are the islands of Martinique, to the north, and Saint Vincent, to the south-west. Significant geographic features include a central ridge of mountains, several rivers, sandy beaches, and boiling sulphur springs. It is surrounded by sandy beaches. Ecosystems include dry cactus scrubs, rainforest, mangroves, and coral reefs which are home to over 1,300 plant species, 160 birds, 250 reef fish, and 50 coral species.
2. A large part of the Saint Lucian ecosystem has been transformed by monoculture plantations, and over 12% of Saint Lucia’s beach length has been mined for sand. Significant threats to biodiversity and nature in Saint Lucia are habitat modification and invasive alien species. Furthermore, climate change has impacted coastal and marine ecosystems, resulting in a reduction in fish landings. The quality and quantity of Saint Lucia’s water supply has also been hindered due to increasing extreme drought events, and nutrient pollution.
3. Historically, Saint Lucia has been a single-crop economy, with a significant portion of GDP and employment reliant on growing bananas. More recently, however, the government has attempted to encourage diversification of the economy by promoting other crop varieties and sectors. While agriculture now represents a much smaller portion of the Saint Lucian GDP (2.07% in 2018), it still provides employment for about 20% of the population.Furthermore, about 18% of the land is used for agricultural practices, with the majority being smallholder farms with a total property of less than 5 acres. Tourism is now Saint Lucia’s largest industry, accounting for around 65% of its GDP, attracting around 900,000 visitors annually. In an attempt to diversify beyond manufacturing and predominantly single-crop agriculture, the government and private sector have made strides towards fostering a more robust manufacturing, information-technology and communications sectors. Recent reports estimate that about 25% of the population lives below the national poverty line, with no significant gains in reducing inequality either between 2006 and 2016.

| **Legal Framework** | **Institutions** | **Policies** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| * Forest, Soil and Water Conservation Act (1945) CAP 7.09
* Saint Lucia National Trust Act (1975) CAP 6.02
* Wildlife Protection Act (1980) CAP 6.03
* Fisheries Act (1984) CAP 7.15
* Land Conservation and Improvement Act (1992) CAP 5.10
* Water and Sewage Act (1995) CAP 9.03
* National Conservation Authority Act (1999) CAP 6.01
* Physical Planning and Development Act (2001) CAP 5.12
* Maritime Areas Act (1984) CAP 1.16
* Beach Protection Act (1967) CAP 6.04
 | * Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Physical Planning, Natural Resources and Co-operative
* Ministry of Education, Innovation, Gender Relations and Sustainable Development
* Department of Sustainable Development
* Ministry of Tourism, Information and Broadcasting
* Saint Lucia National Trust, has engaged in and provided resources for projects aimed at preserving protected areas
* National Conservation Authority
* Sustainable Development and Environment Unit
 | * National Ocean Policy, which develops an overarching vision, policy and outcomes for marine-related sectors
* Coastal Master Plan, provides more tactical and implementation considerations for managing coastal region
* Marine Spatial Plan for the Blue Economy, which develops a long-term plan for the Exclusive Economic Zone
* Consultancy currently engaged to provide recommendations for a plastic waste policy
* Saint Lucia National Climate Change and Adaptation Plan
* National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
* National Environmental Policy (NEP)
* National Environmental Management Strategy (NEMS)
 |

**National Conservation Trust Fund (NCTF) in the country:** Saint Lucia National Conservation Fund (SLUNCF). The SLUNCF became a CBF partner in June 2017 and has disbursed several grants through calls for proposals for local NGOs and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in Saint Lucia. It was also established under the GEF-funded “Sustainable Financing and Management of Eastern Caribbean Marine Ecosystems” project. The Fund has already established different partnerships and initial financial mechanisms, matching the CBF annual payments partially. These include donations from the local private sector (Massy Stores and Saint Lucia Hotel and Tourism Association) and other international grants (Inter American Foundation). These experiences will provide useful insight from lessons learnt in the processes. SLUNCF plans to create a marine health fund, which will support activities that build resilience of marine environment, such as coral reef restoration, sea grass meadows, investment in marine-related nature-based solutions. Although the SLUNCF has a non-governmental majority Board, it maintains a close relationship with the government and the GEF focal point sits in its Board.

**Relevant projects**

1. The major challenge to the adoption of the green economy approach for the tourism sector is convincing both the public and the private sector that it can deliver critical benefits, such as high long-term economic growth, a cleaner environment and greater productivity. Accurate, high-quality data are needed to support informed decision-making, and policy formulation to promote the transition to a green economy. The Saint Lucia Hotel and Tourism Association (SLHTA) manages the Tourism Enhancement Fund (TEF), a financial mechanism based on voluntary contributions from guest and tourism companies. The Saint Lucia TEF has supported the NCTF in the country, SLUNCF, to co-finance projects supported with the CBF endowment resources.
2. The Ministry of Education, Innovation, Gender Relations and Sustainable Development is in the final phase of execution of the GEF-funded project ‘Integrated Ecosystem Management and Restoration of Forests on The Southeast Coast of Saint Lucia’, implemented by UNEP. The project seeks to enable sustainable economic development of the Southeast Coast by maintaining healthy ecosystems, sustainable livelihoods, and securing global environmental benefits through an ecosystem-based approach. The project has a GEF support of USD 4.4 million and is planned to be completed by the end of 2023.
3. As mentioned above, the SLUNCF has a portfolio of projects under implementation and is becoming a relevant actor in the national conservation arena.

**Relevance to national priorities and development strategies**

1. Saint Lucia currently has in place a Climate Financing Strategy which considers different sources of financing such as Domestic Public Resources, International Public Finance, and Domestic and International Private Finance. Consistent with the NAP process, the NAP Climate Financing Strategy is an ongoing and iterative process that would regularly evaluate funding needs and opportunities and would develop project or programme concepts to implement and assess the progress and impacts of these measures. It should be noted that Saint Lucia, as a SIDS, has very limited resources and is expected to mobilise a significant amount of international technical and financial resources to address climate change. The 2020 Saint Lucia NDC has developed an Implementation Plan and a Financing Strategy for the NDC with concrete measures and timeline for their implementation to transition the NDC target to real action and emission reductions.
2. The Saint Lucia NBSAP vision is supported by four goals linked to the goals of the National Strategic Plan. Ten issues were prioritised, including:
* Holistic biodiversity mainstreaming for national development, including inter alia issues on sustainable land management, foreign and local investment, human cultural values and human health.
* Establishment of more formal mechanisms to improve coordination and collaboration among stakeholders.
* Further strengthening of agency and community capacities for managing biodiversity, including through inter alia appropriate technologies for sustainable consumption and production, research and systematic observation, monitoring and evaluation.
* Identification and support for sustainable financing mechanisms.
1. Additionally, this project is also relevant to the following policies, programmes and plans:
* National Ocean Policy
* Coastal Master Plan
* Marine Spatial Plan for the Blue Economy
* Saint Lucia National Climate Change and Adaptation Plan
* National Environmental Policy (NEP)
* National Environmental Management Strategy (NEMS)
* 2030 National Development Strategy
* Draft Resilience Ecosystems Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan

# Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

1. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) is made up of a cluster of mountainous volcanic islands in the eastern Caribbean Sea, with a population of 110 thousand people. The country has a total land area of 390 km2 and includes 32 islands in the northern Grenadines as well as the main island of Saint Vincent. Ocean space in SVG is 30 times larger than the terrestrial space. The nation contains diverse ecosystems including forests, grasslands, wetlands, and coastal and marine ecosystems which contribute to the region’s relatively high biodiversity. The nation is home to over 1,150 species of plants, 163 species of ferns, 170 birds and 516 species of marine biodiversity.
2. Many of these ecosystems are currently under threat, through both natural and man-made risks. Similar to other islands in the region, SVG is vulnerable to flooding, hurricanes, cyclones, sea-level rise and droughts that continue to jeopardize the island’s tourism and agriculture-based economy. Furthermore, the nation contains one active volcano that has caused numerous fatalities and severe damage, including an eruption in 1902 that killed 1,565 people.Volcanic SIDS are also particularly affected not only by eruptions, but also landslides and earthquakes.
3. The economy of SVG is composed mainly of agriculture and tourism, with the country recently attempting to further diversify into construction and financial services. The agriculture sector in SVG revolves predominantly around banana production, with 40% of land-holding farmers growing bananas, about 50% of agricultural land used for permanent crops used for banana production, and 60% of the total population dependent on banana production.Aside from bananas, SVG is the leading global producer of arrowroot, although the industry is shrinking. The second most important sector to the SVG economy is tourism. According to the World Bank, however, due to SVG’s vulnerability to natural disasters, climate change and increased incidences of extreme weather events could have devastating impacts on the tourism industry which largely focuses on the nation’s ocean ecosystems.
4. Reports estimate the poverty rate in SVG to be around 30.2%, with an unemployment rate of around 20.27%. Besides being a historically mono-crop agricultural economy, gender inequality and access to education have also been cited as drivers of poverty in SVG—it is reported that in 2008, nearly 50% of women had their first pregnancy between the ages of fifteen and nineteen.

| **Legal Framework** | **Institutions** | **Policies** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| * Environmental Health (Expanded Polystyrene) Regulations, 2017
* Environmental Health Control of Disposable Plastics Regulations 2019
* Central Water and Sewerage Authority Act, 1992
* Environmental Health Services Act, No. 14, 1991
* Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (Draft, 2009)
* Environmental Management Act (Draft, 2009)
* Environmental Services Act No. 15, 1991
* Fisheries Act, 1986 and the Fisheries Regulations, 1987
* Marine Parks Act, 1991 and the Marine Parks Regulations, 1998
* Maritime Areas Act No. 15 of 1993
* National Parks (Amendment) Act, 2006
* Saint Vincent and the Grenadines National Trust Amendment Act, 2007
* Shipping Act No. 11 of 2004
 | * St. Vincent and the Grenadines Preservation Fund (SVGPF)
* Forestry Department
* Fisheries Division
* National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority
 | * Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020
* National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)
* National Economic and Social Development Plan 2013-2025 (NESDP), includes mainstreaming of biodiversity targets into the national development strategy
* National Ocean Policy and Strategic Plan, 2018, contains 10 guiding policies and 21 related goals
* Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy and Action Plan on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing
* National Parks and Protected Areas Systems Plan 2010-2014
* National Climate Change Policy
 |

**National Conservation Trust Fund (NCTF) in the country:** St Vincent and the Grenadines Conservation Fund (SVGCF). SVGCF became a CBF partner in February 2019. As the other NCTFs in the Eastern Caribbean, it was also established under the GEF-funded “Sustainable Financing and Management of Eastern Caribbean Marine Ecosystems” project. It already has a small portfolio of projects being financed, implemented by NGOs, governmental agencies, and SMEs in the blue economy (dive shops engaged in coral reef restoration). SVGCF has also launched a volunteer’s programme, working with schools on recycling actions. They plan to establish conservation clubs in each school in the country and engage local businesses to support them. SVGCF is actively pursuing various finance mechanisms to expand its capital base, including a tentative to benefit from the recently announced Climate Resilience Levy to be introduced by the government. Although the SVGCF has a non-governmental majority Board, it maintains a close relationship with the government with representatives from different departments sitting in its Board.

**Relevant projects**

1. St Vincent and the Grenadines is a member of the Commonwealth Clean Ocean Alliance, Sustainable Blue Economy and Ocean and Climate Change Action Groups. They are also the current chair of the OECS and have been developing their sustainable development targets, e.g., 60-100% power from renewable resources by 2030.

1. The GEF-funded Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Management Strengthening Project looks at capacity building for resources management to improve management of coastal zones and build more sustainable livelihoods (ecotourism and sustainable fisheries) for the local communities. It is implemented by the World Bank and executed by the government agency Sustainable Development Unit (SDU). It is a five-year project with a GEF grant of USD 3.6 million, to be implemented from 2021 to 2026.
2. SVG government has created a Contingency Fund, composed from a levy charged from hotels. It has accumulated USD 30 million for disaster relief and other needs.

**Relevance to national priorities and development strategies**

1. Proposed SVG strategic interventions include:
* Increase public awareness with regard to climate change issues;
* Build resilience to minimise damage to settlement and infrastructure;
* Minimise damage to beach and shoreline integrity and marine ecosystems;
* Minimise the negative impact of climate change on agriculture and human health; and
* Develop appropriate legislative and regulatory framework, for proper environmental management, and institutional systems for responding and mitigating effects of climate change
1. The revised SVG NBSAP (2015-2020) mirrors the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 however has been customised to account for the country’s unique circumstances, as well as the National Economic and Social Development Plan (NESDP) (2013-2025). NBSAP implementation will be guided by four nationally determined strategic goals focused on: mainstreaming; biodiversity monitoring and the establishment of mechanisms to address threats; ecosystem-level conservation; and conservation and restoration to improve resilience to climate change and mitigation potential. In addition to having identified internal and external sources of financial support, innovative sources of funding, including environmental fiscal reform, payments for ecosystem services, biodiversity offsets, markets for green products, biodiversity in climate change funding, among other financial mechanisms.
2. Additionally, this project is also relevant to the following policies, programmes and plans:
* National Climate Change Policy
* Development of a National Ocean Policy Discussion Document
* Draft Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy and Action Plan
* National Economic and Social Development Plan 2013-2025 (NESDP)
* National Ocean Policy and Strategic Plan
* Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy and Action Plan on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing

# The Bahamas

1. The Bahamas includes over 700 islands, of which between 30 and 40 are inhabited, with a combined total land area of 13,878 km2 and a population of 393 thousand people. The Bahamas has one of the largest marine territories of any country in the Caribbean covering 382,354.38 Km2. The nation is home to approximately 1,111 plant species, 57 birds, 58 reptiles and amphibians, and 248 fish. Generally, the island state has a low altitude and very little freshwater, leading it to be classified as the 6th most vulnerable country to climate change effects globally. Sea-level rise is a main threat to the society and the economy, considering upwards of 80% of the country’s landmass is within 1.5 meters of sea level and 90% of freshwater sources are within 1.5 meters of the land surface. Climate change has also magnified other threats to the Bahamas, such as hurricanes and coral bleaching.
2. The Bahamas has the second highest per capita GDP in the English-speaking Caribbean. The predominant industry in the Bahamas is tourism—however, the industry has proven itself prone to external shocks that may intensify with climate change and an increasing abundance of extreme weather events. The Bahamas is still rebounding from a Category 5 hurricane in 2019, which was estimated to cause 3.4 billion USD in damages and hamper tourism revenue, which typically accounts for upwards of 60% of the nation’s GDP. Furthermore, tourism employs about half of the nation’s labour force, bringing in around 7.25 million foreign visitors in 2019. Aside from tourism, international financial services such as offshore banking are pivotal to the Bahamian economy, accounting for around 20% of GDP. Offshore banking is largely driven by the lax tax regime wherein residents do not have to pay income tax. Aside from financial services and agriculture, the Bahamian economy is also diversifying, with growth in construction, fishing, manufacturing, and agriculture.
3. According to the Household Expenditure Survey in 2013, around 13% of the population lived below the national poverty line. Discrepancies in gains from economic growth among different segments of the population is also reflected in a relatively high Gini index of 41.4, with the bottom 40% of the population only accounting for 16% of total consumption.

| **Legal Framework** | **Institutions** | **Policies** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| * Environmental Protection (Control of Plastic Pollution) Act, 2019
* The Biological Resources and Traditional Knowledge Protection and Sustainable Use Act
* Sea Gardens Protection Act in 1892
* Environmental Planning and Protection Bill, 2019
 | * Ministry of Tourism
* Ministry of Environment and Housing
* Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources
* Bahamas National Trust
 | * The Bahamas Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Policy (2017)
* The Bahamas 2020 Declaration
* Bahamas National Protected Areas System (BNPAS) Project, 2010-2014
* Vision2040, the National Development Plan incorporates sustainable use of natural resources
* Bahamas National Policy for the Adaptation to Climate Change
* Bahamas National Climate Change Policy
* Bahamas National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
* Bahamas National Maritime Policy
 |

**National Conservation Trust Fund (NCTF) in the country:** Bahamas Protected Areas Fund (BPAF). BPAF became a CBF partner in November 2020 and is about to start giving grants with the CBF endowment resources. The Fund has already established its own endowment fund, which will allow it to match the CBF payments. BPAF was instrumental to channel recovery resources provided by the CBF after the category five Hurricane Dorian hit the country in 2019 and will provide useful insight from lessons learnt from this experience. The BPAF Act was amended to comply with some CBF requirements, such as having a non-governmental majority Board, but it maintains a close link to the government, being the financial vehicle created to channel resources to MPAs.

**Relevant projects**

1. The Government of The Bahamas has been developing its Blue Economy Portfolio. In September 2020, the IDB approved a USD 200-million loan to promote blue economy in The Bahamas. The program scope looks to supporting SMEs continuity, modernizing the institutional and legal framework to protect the natural resources, and economic diversification. The Minister of Agriculture and Marine Resources has noted that “the country has to alleviate local competing interest in the Blue Economy so that synergies are created between the departments and sectors that depend on The Bahamas’ marine environment.”
2. In terms of GEF-funded national projects, the Department of Environmental Planning and Protection is executing the project ‘Integrated Landscape Management for Addressing Land Degradation, Food Security and Climate Resilience Challenges in The Bahamas’, with UNEP as implementing agency. It is a USD 5 million GEF grant to strengthen the policies and the institutions responsible for land management; demonstrate regenerative agriculture practices in 10,000 hectares in different islands, training farmers and producers’ community groups; design gender-sensitive business investment plans and create a grant mechanism to support eco-social business ventures to be accessed by farmers and community groups.
3. As mentioned before, the BahamaReefs Programme coordinated by TNC with resources from the Global Fund for Coral Reefs is going to be relevant for the BluEFin project, as it will finance a portfolio of reef-positive businesses. In addition to providing capital and assistance to existing projects, this programme will develop new initiatives (such as blue carbon projects through mangrove restoration) and will strengthen the BPAF. A small grant will allow BPAF to carry out an assessment of what is needed to create a blended finance mechanism within the trust fund.

**Relevance to national priorities and development strategies**

1. The Bahamas NDC note the following relevant adaptation measures:
* Work with stakeholders in the tourism sector to develop a strategic plan, which incorporates Climate Change considerations and appropriate measures such as water conservation programmes, as well as general sustainability concerns.
* Adopt short-, medium-, and long-term measures to protect coastlines and increase the resilience of coastal ecosystems, enforcement of setbacks, and restoration of coastal wetlands.
* Promote the use of less carbon intensive fuels.
1. The Bahamas' NBSAP is in need of updating, but as an archipelagic state, the 2011 document noted the need for management of coastal and offshore Biodiversity issues. It also specifically noted the need for targeted support for the NBSAP and long-term measures, including Public Private Partnerships.
2. Additionally, this project is also relevant to the following policies, programmes and plans:
* Bahamas Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Policy (2017)
* National Development Plan incorporates sustainable use of natural resources
* Bahamas National Policy for the Adaptation to Climate Change
* Bahamas National Maritime Policy