



Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME) Project

Project on “The Sustainable Management of the Shared Marine Resources of the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME) and Adjacent Regions”

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release:

Senior environmental and sustainable development officials from over 20 countries in Central and South America and the Caribbean will meet on June 6th – 8th in Cartagena, to review and approve a full-sized project (FSP) proposal to be submitted to GEF aimed at developing a strategic, integrated approach for “*The Sustainable Management of the Shared Marine Resources of the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME) and Adjacent Regions*”.

Working in collaboration with a broad spectrum of stakeholders, the development of the FSP proposal which focuses on the sustainability of the shared marine resources in the region is the culmination of a collaborative effort on the part of 25 participating countries in the Wider Caribbean Region, IOC (UNESCO) and UNDP, a number of other collaborating agencies, and the University of the West Indies (Cave Hill Campus, Barbados).

The FSP proposal for discussion by the members of the CLME Regional Steering Committee outlines the major components of a US \$7,000,000 proposal to GEF on the identification and agreement of major transboundary living marine resource management issues and their root causes; actions needed to address these constraints, including filling knowledge gaps and the implementation of governance reforms for living marine resource management; and, ecosystem-wide monitoring, reporting and evaluation. In addition to the funds being requested from GEF, member countries and regional partners will contribute an additional US \$21,000,000 in support of the activities proposed over a four-year period.

The meeting participants represent governments, non-governmental organisations, and regional and international organisations, including the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO)/IOCARIBE, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM), Latin American Organization for Fisheries Development (OLDEPESCA), the Organization for the Fishing and Aquaculture Sector of Central America (OSPESCA), the Association of Caribbean States, the Caribbean Community, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), the US Department of Commerce National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) at the University of the West Indies.

The CLME project aims to strengthen regional cooperation to reverse degradation of the shared living marine resources. Its regional scope provides a platform for governments and other stakeholders to collectively pursue the shared goals of economic and environmental sustainability.

For further details, please contact Dr. Lucia Fanning at the CLME Project Unit.

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