

# International Coral Reef Conservation Grant -- Project Report

<b>Project title</b>	Socio-economic monitoring by Caribbean fishery authorities
<b>Project award number</b>	NA07NOS4630032
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<b>Implementer</b>	Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados
<b>Project manager</b>	Dr. Patrick McConney, Senior Lecturer, CERMES, UWI
<b>Investigator</b>	Ms Maria Pena, Project Officer, CERMES, UWI Email: <a href="mailto:patrick.mcconney@cavehill.uwi.edu">patrick.mcconney@cavehill.uwi.edu</a> ; Tel: 246-417-4725 Email: <a href="mailto:maria.pena@cavehill.uwi.edu">maria.pena@cavehill.uwi.edu</a> ; Tel 246-417-4727
<b>Contact information</b>	CERMES general office fax: 246-424-4204 Web site: <a href="http://www.cavehill.uwi.edu/cermes">http://www.cavehill.uwi.edu/cermes</a>

This report assesses the extent to which the project objectives have been met by first looking at whether the proposed products/activities have been delivered to achieve the desired outcomes stated in the proposal. The report concludes with a discussion of challenges and constraints.

## Products and outcomes

The table below, extracted from the project proposal, sets out planned products and outcomes.

Product	Outcome
Report on application process for selecting SocMon training participants and sites	50 preferred participants and 5 study sites
Reports of SocMon training workshops	At least 50 trained fisheries stakeholders
Reports on site assessment initiation	At least 5 monitoring programs established
Training and site monitoring final reports	Shared information for improving SocMon
Oral presentation and paper at GCFI 2008	Sharing of project findings with region
Report on participatory project evaluation	Lessons learned and shared in the region

This report addresses progress made towards the first three entries. The application and site selection process has been successfully completed and is documented in the project partnership and preparation report. Training workshops were successfully conducted in the 5 countries by Maria Pena (Investigator) assisted by Dr. Patrick McConney (Project Manager) and Ms. Katherine Blackman (CERMES Research Assistant). Site-specific training workshop reports are available on the CERMES web site. Progress towards initiating site monitoring has been

reasonable but the field work component is now behind schedule in Barbados, Grenada and Nevis. In summary, the following has been achieved in the reporting period:

### ***Site training workshops***

- Five in-country SocMon training workshops were successfully conducted with 89 fisheries stakeholders trained in SocMon methodology as follows:
  - Barbados, 5-7 May (n=16)
  - Dominica, 14-16 May (n=19)
  - Nevis, 20-22 May (n=14)
  - Grenada, 27-29 May (n=19)
  - St. Vincent, 3-5 June (n=14)
- Due to the increased training workload both the project manager and investigator delivered the training. The investigator was assisted by Ms. Katherine Blackman, CERMES research assistant, for Dominica and St. Vincent training workshops
- In-country workshop organisation and support was commendable
- Five site-specific training workshop reports were completed in June and circulated to all workshop participants by email and mail

### ***Grant disbursement***

- Letters of Agreement between the CERMES Fisheries SocMon Project and the five SocMon monitoring teams for implementation of the site monitoring plan using small grant funds (US\$ 2,500 per site) were circulated to SocMon team leaders for signature in June
- 40% (US\$ 1,000) of small grant funds were disbursed in July to the following organisations responsible for financial administration of the project grant:
  - Oistins Fisherfolk Association, Barbados
  - St. Peter's Fisheries Co-op, Dominica
  - Goodwill Fishermen's Co-op, St. Vincent
- 40% (US\$ 1,000) of small grant funds disbursed in August to an NGO based in Grenville, Grenada and responsible for financial administration of the project grant:
  - Grenada Education and Development Programme (GRENED), Grenada
- 40% (US\$ 1,000) of small grant funds disbursed in September to the Department of Fisheries, Nevis, which is responsible for financial administration of the project grant
- Delayed disbursement of funds to Grenada and Nevis due to late submission of Letters of Agreement and banking information from these sites
- 60% (US\$ 1,500) and final disbursement of grant funds made to Goodwill Fishermen's Co-op, St. Vincent, in September due to good progress made with establishing a site monitoring program for Rose Place

### ***Site monitoring initiation***

- Site assessment planning meetings for Rose Place, St. Vincent were held during July and August. Minutes of all meetings were submitted to the project investigator
- Draft SocMon questionnaires submitted by St. Vincent and Dominica SocMon teams for review by project manager and investigator in August and September
  - St. Vincent SocMon questionnaire was finalised and data collection is ongoing
  - Dominica SocMon draft questionnaires have been reviewed and edited. Final questionnaire to be completed
- Technical advice with respect to drafting questionnaires was provided by CERMES. The following were produced to guide sites through the process of survey design:
  - Document compiling questionnaires used in previous SocMon projects

- One-page survey instrument design handout
- Barbados site assessment planning meetings for Oistins were held in September. Minutes of all meetings and a progress report have been submitted to the project investigator. Study area boundaries have been finalised, key informants have been identified, a project launch in the area is to be organised and questionnaire drafting has begun
- Delays in holding planning meetings in Grenada have been encountered, but a few have recently been held. Meetings have been poorly attended by some team members. A draft questionnaire has been submitted (October) for review by the project manager and investigator. Major tasks to follow have been outlined by the SocMon team leader and include recruitment and training of interviewers and promotion of the SocMon project on radio and TV
- Reasons for delays in holding meetings for planning site assessments and slow project progress in Grenada and Nevis include government elections, public and individual holidays, office re-locations and prior commitments of partners in these sites

### ***Information sharing***

- *Socio-economic monitoring by Caribbean fishery authorities*, accepted for poster presentation at 61<sup>st</sup> Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI), Gosier, Guadeloupe French West Indies, 10-14 November 2008
- Web pages for the CERMES web site to support the project are in preparation for update

### ***Achieving the project objectives***

This project has four main objectives. They are to:

1. Train 50 fisheries management stakeholders, located in 5 selected CRFM member countries, in the use of SocMon Caribbean methods via a series of in-country practically oriented workshops.
2. Assist the initiation of 5 site assessment and monitoring programs for fisheries-related coastal management in the selected CRFM member states that received the training.
3. Document the training and monitoring initiation processes and make them available to a worldwide audience and CERMES communications in order for them to be replicated, with improvement, in future rounds of SocMon activity.
4. Submit compatible data to the Reef Base Socio-Economic global database.

Progress has been made towards meeting the first three objectives as described above.

### ***Challenges and constraints***

Communication by email is sometimes ineffective and this has resulted in delays. Feedback from project sites, with the exception of St. Vincent and Dominica, has been poor. Initiation of monitoring has not yet occurred in most sites in spite of follow-up from CERMES after training had concluded. Prior commitments of partners continue to impact the progress of the project. Should further delays be encountered, site visits by the project manager and/or investigator may be necessary.

### ***List of reports and guidance documents***

Pena M. and P. McConney. 2008. *Socio-economic monitoring by Caribbean fishery authorities: Partnerships and preparation*, October 2007 – April 2008. Report No. 1. 28pp.

Pena M. 2008. *Report of the Barbados SocMon Caribbean Training Workshop held 5-7 May 2008. Socio-economic monitoring by Caribbean fishery authorities Project Report No. 2.* 24pp.

Pena M. 2008. Report of the Dominica SocMon Caribbean Training Workshop held 14-16 May 2008. Socio-economic monitoring by Caribbean fishery authorities Project Report No. 3. 29pp.

Pena M. 2008. Report of the Nevis SocMon Caribbean Training Workshop held 20-22 May 2008. Socio-economic monitoring by Caribbean fishery authorities Project Report No. 4. 27pp.

Pena M. 2008. Report of the Grenada SocMon Caribbean Training Workshop held 27-29 May 2008. Socio-economic monitoring by Caribbean fishery authorities Project Report No. 5. 28pp.

Pena M. 2008. Report of the St. Vincent SocMon Caribbean Training Workshop held 3-5 June 2008. Socio-economic monitoring by Caribbean fishery authorities Project Report No. 6. 29pp.

Pena, M. and P. McConney. 2008. Compilation of questionnaires used in socio-economic monitoring research projects. (Release 1 – July 2008). Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES), The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados. 76pp.