



A bi-monthly electronic bulletin about interdisciplinary research, teaching and outreach at the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES)
 Editors: Maria Pena and Dr. Patrick McConney

Mentorship programme continues

By Katherine Blackman

Katherine Blackman CERMES Research Assistant, now being trained as a mentor for civil society organisations in Barbados attended the second training workshop under the Caribbean Natural Resource Institute’s (CANARI) mentorship programme from 16-19 July in Grenada. The programme, a component under the CANARI project “Consolidating the role of civil society in biodiversity conservation in the Caribbean islands,” funded by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation seeks to build a pool of mentors throughout the Caribbean region who can strengthen the capacity of civil society organisations.



Participants at Levera Beach in Grenada during their field trip. Photo credit: CANARI

Katherine, along with fourteen other mentors from the region provided updates on their work within their respective countries while sharing their experiences and lessons learnt. The workshop was very participatory exposing

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participants to new tools such as participatory video as a tool for monitoring and evaluation, action learning, and community needs assessment and a visioning exercise with a community in Grenada.

CLME Project moves ahead with developing its Strategic Action Programme

By Robin Mahon

One of the key outputs of the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME) Project is the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) that provides a roadmap for the Wider Caribbean Region towards sustainable use of transboundary living marine resources. CERMES role is to provide input to the SAP on a Regional Governance Framework that will be the institutional context for sustainable use. The SAP Core Team met at University of Miami RSMAS, 8-10 August, to assemble the first full set of interventions and actions required to take transboundary living marine resource governance forward over the next 5-10 years. The framework approach is to involve and make best use of the many regional organizations already engaged in living marine resource governance. Proposed framework building activities, to be conducted in a learning-by doing mode, include: clarification of roles in the framework, strengthening

organizations to better play their roles, improved networking of organizations to facilitate the integration needed for an ecosystem approach and a regional level science policy interface.



The CLME Project SAP Core Development Team.
From L to R: Milton Haughton (CRFM), Karen Gayle-McDonald (UNEP-CEP), Laverne Walker (CLME), Robin Mahon (CERMES), Tarub Bahri (FAO), Yves Renard (Workshop Facilitator), Paul Geerders (IOCARIBE IMS-REMP manager, observer), Manuel Pérez (OSPESCA), Alessandra Vanzella Khouri (UNEP-CEP), Cesar Toro (IOCARIBE) Patrick Debels (CLME Regional Project Coordinator)

Browsing bits of Brazil

By Patrick McConney

Upon invitation from Dr. Cristiana Seixas, a colleague at the Environmental Studies and Research Centre (NEPAM) of the State University of Campinas (UNICAMP) near São Paulo in Brazil, Patrick McConney delivered a one-week graduate course on 'Coastal and marine resource governance: concepts and Caribbean case studies' at UNICAMP.



McConney also visited research sites and fishing towns along the coast from Ilha Grande (just south of Rio de Janeiro) to Rio Grande (just

north of Uruguay). Along the way, seminars and meetings were held with researchers and students at the Federal University at Rio Grande, Federal University of Parana, Federal University of Santa Catarina and State University of São Paulo.

Opportunities for collaboration were discussed with many people who work in coastal and marine social-ecological systems using resilience concepts and who share interests with researchers at CERMES.

Belize: More than 'just beans'

By Rohan Ford

The FORCE team has completed fieldwork in Belize, where they studied the communities of Placencia, Hopkins and San Pedro, researching livelihood dependence on coral reefs and perceptions of reef governance. FORCE Research Assistant, Rohan Ford, shares his reflections:

"When Belize was selected, I thought about what I knew of the country from my first visit in 2010. One thing that resonated with me was the quantity of beans that came with every meal, and I prepared for a return to the beans capital of the world. Fast forward ten weeks to the end of fieldwork, after having met some fascinating individuals and hearing their stories, I find myself thinking less about beans and more about the exciting analysis that awaits us with the rich data we have collected. From the cultural resilience of the *garinagu* people of Hopkins, who are trying to find new, innovative ways to preserve their culture in an economically viable way, to the people of Placencia voicing their opinions against cruise ship tourism, everyone we encountered showed their love for the reefs and natural resources. One thing is for sure, now when I remember Belize, it will always be more than 'just beans'."



Hopkins future scenario meeting