



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

## IUCN BIOPAMA workshop held at UWI

*By Patrick McConney*

CERMES, a member of the IUCN, kicked off conference partnering for 2013 with the IUCN Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management (BIOPAMA) Regional Workshop for the Caribbean, held from 22-24 January 2013 on the Cave Hill Campus. According to José Courrau of IUCN, the BIOPAMA programme aims to address threats to biodiversity in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries, while reducing poverty in communities in and around protected areas. It is financially supported by resources from the intra-ACP envelope of the European Commission's (EC) 10th European Development Fund (EDF).

BIOPAMA combines improving data availability with capacity development to strengthen protected area management. It has two main components: one concerning protected areas, and another dealing with access and benefit sharing. Ultimately, BIOPAMA should lead to better biodiversity conservation and livelihoods options.



*Talking protected areas*

### Inside this issue

IUCN BIOPAMA workshop	1
British High Commission beach cleanup	1
Talking governance in Tokyo	2
Caribbean Challenge SocMon wraps up	2
Congratulations	2

Among the workshop participants was the Hon. Saboto Caesar, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, who provided a regional policy perspective on the matters under discussion. Group work was used to identify critical data, information and capacity development needs for the management of protected areas in the Caribbean. Participants also helped to identify the key stakeholders in the Caribbean that have or own data and information that are essential for the proper management of protected areas in the region.

## British High Commission beach cleanup

*By Renata Goodridge*

The employees of the British High Commission organized a morning beach cleanup for Miami Beach, Christ Church on 15 February. As the cleanup finished, and beverages were shared on the now clean beach, Renata Goodridge gave an informal talk to all present on Barbados' reefs and their particular environmental challenges. It is always good to see people from different walks of life care about our beaches and reefs – the staff at the British High Commission are being the change they want to see in our island community!



*Evidence of a successful cleanup*

## Talking governance in Tokyo

*By Patrick McConney*

The Earth System Governance (ESG) Tokyo Conference, held 28-31 January 2013, benefitted from a small Caribbean-based or oriented contingent. The Cave Hill team comprised Robin Mahon, Patrick McConney and PhD candidate Alexcia Cooke. From St. Augustine were Michelle Scobie and David Simmons. Lucia Fanning joined from Dalhousie University. Their presentations focused on several aspects of the governance of the Caribbean Sea.



## Caribbean Challenge SocMon wraps up

*By Maria Pena*

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) funded *Socio-economic Monitoring by Caribbean Challenge MPA managers (CC*

*SocMon*) project terminates at the end of February. As a result, sites have been busily completing data analysis and have held or are currently planning to hold community validation meetings. Reporting is progressing smoothly.



*MBMPA SocMon team members spreading the word about the upcoming validation meetings in MPA communities*

Throughout January, Maria Pena (Project Manager) and Katherine Blackman (Assistant SocMon Trainer) visited Grenada, St. Vincent and St. Lucia to provide technical assistance in data analysis and reporting to the Molinière-Beauséjour MPA (MBMPA) and Woburn/Clarke's Court Bay (WCCB MPA), Grenada; South Coast Marine Conservation Area (SCMCA), St. Vincent; and Soufriere Marine Management Area (SMMA) and Pitons Management Area (PMA), St. Lucia. Information on where to find project reports will follow in the next *Connections*.

## Congratulations

*By Leonard Nurse*

Congratulations to former CERMES MSc student Colin Mattis who recently landed a job in Belize at the National Climate Change Office in Belize as a Climate Change Officer. He will be working on a project entitled "Enhancing Belize's Resilience to Adapt to the Effects of Climate Change." Colin is one of our recent Climate Change graduates from Guyana.

CERMES continues to keep in close contact with its alumni through an email group that shares information on job and other opportunities.