



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

## FORCE project social science meeting

By Rachel Turner

Social science partners from the Future of Reefs in a Changing Environment (FORCE) project met at UWI in Barbados 6-9 May 2013 to discuss progress on the data analysis emerging following fieldwork in Barbados, Honduras, St. Kitts and Nevis and Belize over the past two years. As well as a large contingent from CERMES, representatives from Integrated Marine Management (IMM) and Newcastle University in the UK attended the meeting. The team discussed plans for data analysis and publications, as well as the structure of outputs needed to provide feedback to reef managers in the countries studied.

## FORCE Sustainable Livelihoods Enhancement and Diversification (SLED) workshop

By Rachel Turner

Participants from around the Caribbean attended a two day workshop at UWI, 9-10 May 2013 focusing on sustainable livelihoods enhancement and diversification for reef dependent persons in the Caribbean. The workshop was led by UK-based marine management consultancy Integrated Marine Management (IMM), and formed part of the livelihoods research of the Future of Reefs in a Changing Environment (FORCE) project. This workshop aimed to build on the research

### Inside this issue

FORCE project social science meeting	1
FORCE SLED workshop	1
Preparing for SIDS conference 2014	2
IWRM Toolbox	2
Finding solutions for Caribbean MPAs	3
CC SocMon project ends	3
CLME ocean governance lessons to share	4
WRM intern	4

activities that the FORCE project has been carrying out throughout the Caribbean since 2010. This research has looked at the ways in which coral reef dependent communities are adapting to a changing environment and the different ways in which they have been helped, or hindered, in the process of adapting their livelihoods.

The purpose of this workshop was to bring together a group of people involved in planning and implementing programmes in support of livelihood development and change in coastal communities in the Caribbean region.



Participants included people from a range of governmental and non-governmental organisations from Barbados, Honduras, St. Kitts and Nevis, Belize, and regional

Caribbean organisations. The workshop provided an opportunity for these diverse participants to exchange their knowledge, and use their experience to contribute to the development of a set of guidelines for Sustainable Livelihood Enhancement and Diversification in coral reef dependent communities in the Caribbean. These guidelines will be published as an output of the workshop and the FORCE project, drawing on the experience of participants to help people in coastal communities, and the agencies that work with them, to be more effective in building people's capacity to adapt their livelihoods in the future.

## Preparing for SIDS conference in Samoa, 2014

*By Patrick McConney*

Patrick McConney made a presentation on "Regional/national interplay of institutional arrangements for ocean science and capacity building for SIDS sustainable development" at the UN-OHRLS and UNESCO's IOC jointly convened *Experts Group Meeting on the significance of Marine Science and Technology for SIDS and the importance of Capacity Building and Marine Technologies Transfer to SIDS* held 14-17 May 2013 in New York at the UN. Major discussion points included the need to do business better in SIDS; change the focus from SIDS vulnerability to their value; the notion of Large Ocean Countries to focus on their ocean space; the need to improve science-policy interfaces at all levels of governance and the critical role of networking.



The Caribbean was in lowest attendance at the meeting. However, the Caribbean regional meeting in early July (Jamaica), the global inter-regional meeting in early September (Barbados) and the SIDS conference in 2014 (Apia, Samoa) offer opportunities for UWI to make its presence felt. The UWI is also the current secretariat for the University Consortium of Small Island States (UCSIS), a potentially important organisation within the SIDS process for capacity development.

## Caribbean lecturers learn about using water management toolbox in education

*By Adrian Cashman*

Over twenty lecturers and researchers from universities across the Caribbean met in Barbados at The University of the West Indies (UWI), Cave Hill Campus for the first-ever regional Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Knowledge Management Workshop, 5-6 June, 2013.

The two-day regional workshop was spearheaded by the Global Water Partnership-Caribbean (GWP-C) in collaboration with its partner, CERMES. The workshop focused on the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Toolbox which was developed by the Global Water Partnership (GWP) based in Stockholm, Sweden and its partners.

The IWRM Toolbox is a free online database ([www.gwptoolbox.org](http://www.gwptoolbox.org)) with a wide range of resources and tools that provide support in finding solutions to water related problems. It is a unique knowledge platform where experiences in water resources management can be shared.

The workshop therefore sought to introduce tertiary level practitioners in the Caribbean to the IWRM Toolbox and to explore how it could be used in the academic environment of their universities to support their teaching of water resources management.

For more information contact:

CERMES, University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, St. Michael, Barbados

Phone: (246) 417-4316 Fax: (246) 424-4204 [cermes@cavehill.uwi.edu](mailto:cermes@cavehill.uwi.edu) or visit [www.cavehill.uwi.edu/cermes](http://www.cavehill.uwi.edu/cermes)



Attending the workshop will be lecturers from universities and research institutes based in Barbados, Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States Virgin Islands, among others.

Special thanks to Ms. Lisa-Ann Rollins (CERMES) who assisted Dr. Cashman with the preparations, coordination and hosting of the workshop, and Mr. Dale Benskin (CERMES) who provided IT support for the duration of the workshop.

## Finding solutions for CARICOM MPAs

*By Patrick McConney*

The CARICOM Secretariat and the Government of the Republic of Germany, through the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), have initiated Caribbean Aqua-Terrestrial Solutions (CATS). The Caribbean Environmental Health Institute (CEHI), now the Environmental Health and Management Unit of the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), was selected to be the Implementing Partner Agency. CATS is a CEHI/CARPHA /GIZ/ CARICOM Programme with two components. One component is about “improving the management of coastal resources and the conservation of the marine biodiversity of Caribbean island states”, having as its objective: “The management of existing marine protected areas in the selected Caribbean Island states is improved/strengthened”.

This component entitled Coastal Resources Management and Conservation of Marine Biodiversity in CARICOM Member States

(CRMCMB) held from 5-7 June 2013 in St. Lucia its Planning Workshop, 1st Programme Steering Committee Meeting and Regional Partner Forum.



Patrick McConney represented CERMES and, along with national and regional governmental agencies and NGOs with interests in MPAs, shared information on relevant on-going and past MPA initiatives. It is hoped that this GIZ-funded programme will utilise the outputs and tools of previous work on MPAs and build on this body of knowledge and expertise through learning-by-doing. Thus, the focus is on implementing solutions, rather than doing more studies, where information is sufficient to take action. The absence of a lead CARICOM agency with a clear mandate and work plan related to MPAs is somewhat worrisome at a time when the Caribbean Challenge Initiative, and MPAs in general, occupy a considerable amount of attention and resources in the CARICOM region.

## CC SocMon project ends

*By Maria Pena*

The *Socio-economic Monitoring by Caribbean Challenge MPA Managers (CC SocMon)* project officially ended on 28 February 2013 with all reporting and project outputs completed by 31 May 2013. A key finding of the project is recognition of the potential for development of a core set of variables or indicators that can be rapidly monitored in future rounds of SocMon by each site in addition to other goals and objectives. Based on the “popularity” of specific variables identified in this project, the opportunity therefore exists for building a sub-

regional socio-economic picture of Caribbean Challenge MPAs and regional MPAs in general. For more information on shared variables among sites as well as site findings, please check the CERMES website soon for all project reports.

## Ocean governance lessons to share

By Robin Mahon

Prof Robin Mahon recently attended the Global Environment Facility Scientific and Technical and Advisory Panel (GEF-STAP) Expert Workshop on "The Political Economy of Regionalism and International Waters", where he spoke on "Facilitating regional governance arrangements in the Wider Caribbean Region".

The approach taken to assessing and developing regional ocean governance in the Wider Caribbean Region was well received by participants. The key points shared were the value of having a conceptual framework, and the importance of placing management action in the context of appropriate institutional arrangements and processes. The workshop conveners expressed the view that the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME) Project experience provided valuable lessons that should be captured and shared with other GEF IW projects. The meeting was held 11-12 June 2013 at OAS General Secretariat, Washington, DC, USA.

## WRM intern



The Water Resources Management specialisation stream at CERMES is happy to welcome its very first intern, Mr. Semyon Chaymann. Read below to find out a bit about Semyon and what he will be working on at CERMES.

"I am originally from Almaty, Kazakhstan. In High School I became interested in world issues and geography, which is why I chose McGill School of Environment for undergraduate studies. I hold a Bachelor of Agricultural and

Environmental Science from McGill University with specialisation in Water Environments and Ecosystems. In 2009, during my final undergraduate year, I travelled to Barbados as part of the McGill University Barbados Field Study Semester Program (BFSSP). As a requirement for the program, I successfully completed an internship with the University of the West Indies that explored the issues of water quality in the Holetown gullies and the coastal zone. In 2010 I became a Program Assistant of the BFSSP. Upon my return to Canada, I worked for General Electric in the Water & Process Technologies Division as a field technician. My main duties were troubleshooting and maintenance of proprietary water treatment equipment such as Ultrafiltration, Nanofiltration, Membrane Bioreactors, Reverse Osmosis, Deionization, and Multimedia filters. I am grateful for the valuable experience I gained in water treatment processes, project management and customer/client relations. However, as I traveled to sites in Canada and the USA I noticed that my interests led me towards the management of water resources."

"I am currently enrolled in the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Master of Science Degree at McGill University. My project/internship has brought me back to Barbados and the Caribbean. I am currently working on the development of an *Assessment of the Available Water Resources in Barbados* under supervision of Dr. Adrian Cashman at the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES). The project aims to contribute to the research capacity in the region by exploring and applying emerging methodologies for the assessment of water availability."

"Apart from the academics, I am interested in football, snowboarding and have recently taken up surfing. Being active brings on quite an appetite and nothing satiates my hunger more than a good portion of macaroni pie chased down with an ice-cold golden apple juice."