



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

CERMES at World Forum on Climate Justice

By David Yawson



David Yawson at the Forum

CERMES was present at the World Forum on Climate Justice, 19-21 June, Glasgow Caledonian University, Glasgow, UK. Climate justice seeks to provide analytical and policy framework for equitable sharing of the benefits and burdens of climate change. At this forum Dr. David Yawson made an oral presentation on the topic "Climate mitigation and hidden vulnerabilities:

addressing the impending food gap between the global north and south." Using research evidence and current literature, David's presentation advanced the argument that land-based climate mitigation policies and aspirations (especially in the global north) could worsen food insecurity in the global south. For example, deforestation and biofuel production would diminish cereal production in the global north and thereby put pressure on the global market for cereal. In the end, poor countries, which already suffer food insecurities and are highly vulnerable to climate change, would be out-competed. A double whammy for these poor countries. David called for a reconsideration of mitigation policies and aspirations that diminish cereal production capacity in the global north, together with globally equitable distribution of land-based mitigation

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actions to minimize the hidden vulnerabilities or secondary impacts in the context of climate justice.

4th CCI-CBF Week

By Maria Pena

This year's 4th Caribbean Challenge Initiative-Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CCI-CBF) Week, 16-20 June 2019, Jolly Beach Resort, Bolans Antigua and Barbuda was another resounding success. About 90 participants from 12 Caribbean participants took part in the CCI Participants Assembly and the 7th CBF annual meeting. Major announcements included the approximate US\$ 45 mil injection of additional financial support for Caribbean conservation from the German and French governments and The Nature Conservancy (TNC); enlargement of the CCI to include the addition of other members of the Caribbean (Cuba, Dominica and Guyana) to the CBF endowment; news of the implementation of five pre-financing agreements with national conservation trust funds (NCTFs) under the CBF conservation finance program and three additional partnership agreements to be rolled out in 2019 with the SVGCF (St. Vincent and the Grenadines), NCTF (Jamaica) and GSDTF (Grenada) – the latter launched during the Week of activities; introductions to the new CCI Special Envoy, Ms. Karolin Troubetzkoy, and CCI Coordinator Mr. John Calixte (a CERMES alumnus!); update on the Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) Facility for 2018-2019; the launch of the TNC developed web-based story map of CCI progress on 20-by-20 goal; and early achiever award presentations to five countries

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; www.cavehill.uwi.edu/cermes

– Dominican Republic, St. Kitts and Nevis, US VI, Puerto Rico – all of which surpassed the 20% conservation goal.

Prior to the start of the CCI Participants Assembly, the EbA Facility Committee held its second face-to-face meeting since its formation in 2017. New members to the Committee include Dr. Ulrike Krauss, EbA Facility Technical Officer who joined in March 2019; Mr. Steven Canty, Smithsonian Marine Station; and Mr. Robbie Bovino, TNC.



CCI early achievers. L to R: John Calixte (CCI Coordinator) and Karolin Troubetzkoy (CCI Envoy) with Joseph Emmanuel (Chief of Staff Ministry of Environment, Haiti); Josefina Gomez (Fondo MARENA, Dominican Republic); June Hughes (Director, St. Kitts and Nevis Department of Environment) and Ernesto Diaz, Director, Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program

One of the focal points of this year's meeting was discussion of the EbA Facility's first call for proposals launched in November 2018 to support EbA actions that help people adapt to adverse effects of climate change, reduce disaster risk, and build resilient ecosystems and economies. Over 100 concept notes were received, with a final 15 making it through to the full proposal stage – 11 national, two bi-national and two regional projects. Final proposals are due for submission on 8 July 2019. The Facility will distribute grants ranging from US\$ 250,000 up to 2 mil, directly to local, national, regional and international institutions, including civil society organisations, government agencies, universities and research organisations, and community-based organisations in eligible countries. It is expected that about US\$ 12.5 mil will be distributed through this first award.

For more on the CBF, CCI and EbA Facility, visit <https://caribbeanbiodiversityfund.org>.

CERMES is represented by Maria Pena on both the CCI Steering Committee and the EbA Facility Committee.



EbA Facility Committee members.

Back row (L to R): Robbie Bovino, Steven Canty and Axel Krumsiek. Front row (L to R): Ulrike Krauss, Karim Ould-Chih, Maria Pena, Kim Halbich and Joth Singh. Missing is Ulric Trotz and Rizvi Ali Raza.

Field skills course goes local and blue

By *Patrick McConney*

The CERMES field skills course was held in Barbados from 29 May to 7 Jun. Fourteen MSc students and CERMES staff braved the wilds of the south and west coasts of the country. The water, climate and coastal students learned specific field skills, and also how to integrate their academic knowledge with field observations in the context of the blue economy. The latter scenario was brought to life in the field by resource persons who shared their knowledge as they walked and talked with the students at various west coast locations.



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CREWs onboard with the Caribbean Gateway

By Carmel Haynes

Natural resource managers from across the Caribbean have been brought together to collectively improve how protected areas data in their territories is validated, monitored, and used by policy makers regionally and internationally to make decisions about managing their natural resources.

Twenty-six representatives from government and non-governmental agencies in the Caribbean have become CREW (Credible, Reliable, Energetic and Willing) supporters of the Caribbean Protected Areas Gateway (the Caribbean Gateway), the regional observatory for biodiversity and conservation management for the Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management (BIOPAMA) Programme in the Caribbean.

The CREWs, drawn from 14 of the 15 African Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) group of countries in the Caribbean, participated in a regional training workshop between May 20 and 23 hosted at CERMES at The UWI Cave Hill Campus.

The workshop allowed a detailed review of the Caribbean Gateway and improved the understanding by participants of the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) data management process. The WDPA provides the information that populates the Caribbean Gateway's datasets on protected areas in the region. The United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) compiles and manages the data that is in the WDPA and a UNEP-WCMC team assisted in the facilitation of the workshop.

The establishment of the CREWs in-country teams is part of the strategy being implemented by the Caribbean Gateway to engage countries and facilitate the uptake, sharing and usage of this data and information.

Julian Walcott, Technical Officer for the Caribbean Gateway, said the workshop provided the partners with valuable input and insight from participants on how the design and functionality, data quality and accuracy, capacity, and network building of the Gateway could be improved.

BIOPAMA Caribbean Team attend IUCN's Regional Conservation Forum 2019

By Justin Springer

The BIOPAMA Caribbean Team participated in the recently concluded [IUCN Regional Conservation Forum](#) (27-30 May) in Antigua, Guatemala. The Forum created the platform for IUCN members and commission members to engage in discussions, presentations, and exhibits on IUCN's work across the region and provide feedback on the IUCN Draft Programme for 2021-2024. There was representation from Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean.

Julian Walcott delivered an e-poster presentation on the Caribbean Protected Areas Gateway and Hyacinth Armstrong-Vaughn gave an overview of the BIOPAMA Programme and work being done in the Caribbean. Additionally, the Team developed a short [video](#) to highlight the work conducted on protected areas management effectiveness, and a small exhibition was mounted to disseminate information to forum participants on the programme's work.



Two of the BIOPAMA Caribbean Team members at the regional forum – Justin Springer (L) and Julian Walcott (R)

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