



UNDP/UNEP GEF GLOBAL PROJECT
“TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO ELIGIBLE PARTIES TO PRODUCE THE SIXTH NATIONAL
REPORT TO THE CBD (6NR)”

**SIXTH NATIONAL TECHNICAL SUPPORT WORKSHOP:
CARIBBEAN & CENTRAL AMERICA**

23 & 24 January 2019, Christ Church, Barbados

FINAL REPORT

March 2019

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INTRODUCTION

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) are working in collaboration with the Secretariat to the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD) to support 139 GEF-eligible Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in their work to develop a high quality, gender-responsive and data-driven Sixth National Report (6NR). These reports will improve the implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAP), the development of conservation policy and decision-making, the ability of countries to report on their progress towards achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABT), and inform both the Fifth Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO5) and the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

To meet this goal, countries are working to better develop baselines of biodiversity status, determine how to use spatial data to inform conservation decisions, monitor indicators over time, and integrate the perspective of indigenous and local communities, as well as women. The data within these reports will assist countries in evaluating the present and future status of nature in their countries, report on areas of significant biodiversity decline, better understand the risks these declines poses for people and the planet, and develop urgent and meaningful actions in the region to halt or reverse it.

The initial deadline to submit the final stakeholder-owned Sixth National Report (6NR) was 31 December 2018. On that day, 23 UNDP countries submitted their 6NR on time, while 41 other had yet to submit it. Among those countries who did not submit their report by the deadline, 12 are located in the Caribbean and Central America.

WORKSHOP PURPOSE

On 23 and 24 January 2019, UNDP hosted the 6NR Technical Support Workshop for the Caribbean and Central America in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat, the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF), and the Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management (BIOPAMA) Programme. The workshop took place at the UNDP Barbados and the OECS UN House, Marine Gardens, Hastings, Christ Church, Barbados. Participants from 17 Caribbean and Central American countries¹ met to discuss data and reporting needs to help their governments, and the world, understand what actions need to be taken to halt and reverse biodiversity loss in this region. The workshop intended to increase the capacity of Parties' to submit a 6NR in the first half of 2019.

The workshop purpose was to assess the progress that these countries have made to develop their national reports, and to offer opportunities for technical assistance and peer learning to overcome challenges and information gaps. The hosting agencies assisted participants to exchange best practices, share experiences, and overcome information gaps in monitoring and reporting on the state of nature in their countries. The agenda is included in Annex I.

The workshop had three objectives:

1. Discuss the project status, exchange best practices, share experiences and work to overcome gaps;
2. Build proficiency in the use of tools such as the 6NR Data Tracking Tool and UN Biodiversity Lab;

¹ Representatives from Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago participated in the workshop. Representatives from Bahamas and Dominican Republic received invitations but could not attend the meeting.

3. Discuss reporting strategies for sustainable finance and effective protected area management.

Each country designated one to two representatives to attend the workshop (Annex II). The plenary sessions were held in English. The individual or group discussions were held in English, French and Spanish.

Nine main topics related to best practices in national reporting were covered during the two-day workshop. After the facilitator briefly introduced each topic, there was a presentation of a country participant of a regional best practice and/or a group exercise. Each session concluded with a group discussion in English and Spanish. The topics included:

1. Progress to complete the 6NR
2. Using biodiversity indicators in national reporting
3. Introduction to the 6NR Data Tracking Tool
4. Stakeholder engagement and gender considerations in national reporting
5. Spatial data and UN Biodiversity Lab
6. Reporting strategies that are focused on sustainable finance
7. Reporting strategies that are focused on effective protected area management
8. Potential synergies for reporting and implementing
9. Assessing the effectiveness of measures to achieve ABTs and National Targets

The following speakers provided presentations on these topics; all presentations can be found in Annex III:

1. 6NR Available Tools and Guidelines: Martin Cadena, Technical Specialist, 6NR Project
2. 6NR Data Tracking Tool – Lessons Learned, Panama: Jose de Gracia, Program Coordinator, Panama: <https://bit.ly/2Dh5tfo>
3. Antigua & Barbuda's Experience in Using Spatial Data in 6NR Preparation: Helena Jeffery Brown, 6NR Team Leader and Technical Coordinator, Antigua & Barbuda: <https://bit.ly/2HQUYoz>
4. Assessing the Effectiveness of Measures to Achieve ABTs and National Targets: Christina Supples, Senior Technical Project Advisor, Global 6NR Project, UNDP
5. Introduction to the 6NR Data Tracking Tool: Martin Cadena, Technical Specialist, 6NR Project
6. Overview of the 6NR Structure and Project Plan: Martin Cadena, Technical Specialist, 6NR Project
7. Protected Area Management Effectiveness: Karen McDonald Gayle, Programme Manager at CBF, and Hyacinth Armstrong-Vaughn, Protected Areas Officer at BIOPAMA: <https://bit.ly/2GqYvYo>
8. Integrating Gender to the Costa Rica Sixth National Report to the CBD: Eugenia Arguedas Montezuma, CBD Focal Point, Costa Rica: <https://bit.ly/2G91pBO>
9. Reporting and Implementation Mechanisms: Julian Walcott, Technical Officer at BIOPAMA, and Hyacinth Armstrong-Vaughn, Protected Areas Officer at BIOPAMA: <https://bit.ly/2DU5SGm>
10. Reporting and Implementation Mechanisms – Caribbean Challenge Initiative: Karen McDonald Gayle, Programme Manager at CBF: <https://bit.ly/2WGejMK>
11. Spatial Data and UN Biodiversity Lab: Scott Atkinson, Spatial Planning Expert, 6NR Project
12. Spatial Data Use – Belize: Hannah St. Luce- Martinez, National Coordinator, Belize: <https://bit.ly/2WFPW1T>
13. Stakeholder Engagement for St. Vincent & Grenadines' 6NR to the CBD, Therese Yarde, Consultant, St. Vincent & Grenadines: <https://bit.ly/2HRxwrv>
14. Sustainable Finance and Conservation Trust Funds (CTFs): Karen McDonald Gayle, Programme Manager at CBF: <https://bit.ly/2Swl3wq>
15. Stakeholder Engagement and Gender Considerations in National Reporting: Marion Marigo, Technical Specialist, 6NR Project
16. Using Biodiversity Indicators in National Reporting: Christina Supples, Senior Technical Project Advisor, Global 6NR Project, UNDP

Seven countries also prepared posters that showcase best practices in national reporting. The posters are listed below as well as included in Annex IV. The poster topics included:

1. Stakeholder Engagement and National Coordination – Panama: <https://bit.ly/2N1c8il>
2. Stakeholder Engagement & National Coordination - St. Vincent & Grenadines: <https://bit.ly/2SifnRg>
3. Mainstreaming Gender Consideration in the 6NR – Costa Rica: <https://bit.ly/2E6CZXi>
4. Using Spatial Data to Develop the 6NR - Belize: <https://bit.ly/2UV3B34>
5. Using Spatial Data to Develop the 6NR - Antigua & Barbuda: <https://bit.ly/2I6yJLH>
6. Assessing the Effectiveness of NBSAP implementation – Honduras: <https://bit.ly/2E6ky5g>
7. Assessing the Effectiveness of NBSAP implementation – Dominican Republic: <https://bit.ly/2GniEPU>

At the workshop's conclusion, participants recognized that the following steps are required to more accurately report on the state of nature in the Caribbean and Central America:

- Need to develop effective, long-term, spatially explicit monitoring systems that uses measurable indicators to track changes in the status of nature, and the impact of actions to protect it;
- Need to develop information national baselines of biodiversity data;
- Need to develop, access, and share spatial data, and to use it to make decisions making; and
- Need to better capture important biodiversity data from indigenous and local communities, and to understand the different roles of women and men in biodiversity conservation.

From here, these 17 countries will complete their Sixth National Report and submit it to the CBD by June 2019. The workshop hosts will also continue providing technical support to the countries to develop and share the results of their reports through info graphics, policy briefs, and best practices. The reports will also be used to inform the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, review the implementation of the CBD's Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2010-2020, and to help design the post-2020 Global Framework on Biodiversity. Global leaders will use the information to set the stage for bold new targets for nature that will define conservation action for the next decade. The remainder of this report provides a detailed summary of the workshop discussions.

DAY 1 OVERVIEW

Introductory remarks

Opening remarks were provided by:

- Chisa Mikami, Deputy Resident Representative of UNDP Barbados
- Christina Supples, Senior Technical Project Advisor, Global 6NR Project, UNDP
- Karen McDonald Gayle, Conservation Finance Program Manager, Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF)
- Hyacinth Armstrong-Vaughn, IUCN Protected Areas Officer and Regional Coordinator for BIOPAMA

Session 1.1: Progress to complete the 6NR (Christina Supples, UNDP)

During this session, participants introduced themselves and shared their role in the 6NR preparation, as well as the main challenges and obstacles they are encountering during report development. While the Bahamas and Jamaica are in the beginning stages of report development, the other 15 countries are quite advanced in the process. They typically have developed at least a first draft, if not several, collected existing quantitative and qualitative data, had it validated by stakeholders, and have hosted several stakeholder consultations. Before the meeting, 8 countries submitted their draft report to the Global Support team for technical review. Out of 64 UNDP-supported countries, 23 have submitted a draft to the CBD by the 31 December 2018 deadline.

Challenges raised by participants included:

- The lack or dispersion of relevant data for the report, as well as systematic data collection systems and standard scientific methods;
- The collection of data by stakeholders that is not directly related to NBSAP actions;
- The lack of clear indicators to be used in strategies, as well as a lack of monitoring data to evaluate targets, and a lack of consistent data over a long period of time;
- The need to gather and standardize spatial data for a more efficient and relevant reporting process;
- The need to tailor global indicators to national targets and outcomes;
- The need to develop more sustainable data collection methods over longer time frames was raised by almost all participants; and
- The need to enhance collaboration among data providers, including in various government ministries.

Session 1.2: Overview of the 6NR structure plan and project, and presentation of available tools and guidelines (Martin Cadena, 6NR Technical Specialist, UNDP)

Martin Cadena began this session by reminding participants of the 6NR structure and work plan. He also explained the technical tools available to support countries to develop their 6NR, including:

- CBD Online Reporting Tool (<https://chm.cbd.int/>)
- 6NR Technical Review Framework (<https://bit.ly/2AfJWDK>)
- 6NR Technical Guidance on Indicators (<https://bit.ly/2God2pA>)
- 6NR Technical Guidance on Stakeholder Engagement (<https://bit.ly/2Lqo8Jt>)
- 6NR Technical Webinar Series (<https://bit.ly/2J47c9f>)
- NBSAP Forum (<http://nbsapforum.net>)
- 6NR Data Tracking Tool (<https://bit.ly/2OefLv7>)
- UN Biodiversity Lab (<http://unbiodiversitylab.org>)
- Self-paced, free, online course: Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment and Leadership in the context of National Biodiversity Planning and Reporting (<https://bit.ly/2Pu0V9L>)

Dr. Thérèse Yarde, Consultant, stated that she utilised the Biodiversity Partnership Dashboard, which was comprehensive in providing adequate data on indicators and targets.

Session 1.3: Using biodiversity indicators in national reporting (Christina Supples, Senior Technical Project Advisor, Global 6NR Project, UNDP)

This session focused on using biodiversity indicators to develop national reports. Christina Supples gave a brief presentation on biodiversity indicators that provided background information on the importance of biodiversity indicators. She explained how to develop an indicator, how to use indicators during the reporting process, and what types of global data sources are available. The presentation was followed by a small group exercise where participants focused on developing relevant indicators for their country's 6NR and NBSAP.

During the plenary discussion, participants highlighted the following challenges and positive outcomes:

- Indicator data is often available in multiple places, both within and outside of the government, and the management of and access to these data is not coordinated;
- There is often no continuity in how data is maintained over time. Therefore, it is challenging to develop indicators that relate to time series data;
- NBSAP Indicators are often not clear, too ambitious, or unrealistic and difficult to track. Data collection is often not systematized, or linked to indicators. This makes it challenging to consistently obtain and monitor the data that are needed to evaluate national conservation targets and trends.
- There is an urgent need to gather and standardize spatial data, and to build awareness about, and capacity to, use spatial data tools to monitor trends of biodiversity over time;
- Support is needed to develop indicators that reflect and measure the contributions of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs), as well as indicators that reflect changes in public awareness regarding the values of biodiversity due to the implementation of conservation measures;
- Gender-sensitive indicators are still missing in many NBSAPs.
- International and global targets and indicators are useful when they can be adapted to the national context and downscaled to local indicators. If not, the data may not be accurate.

Jose de Gracia (Panama) described a Government Trust Fund in Panama that helps pay for protected areas projects, as well as USD15,000 towards NBSAP implementation. Panama also has a Commission on Indicators that is framed by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Eugenia Arguedas Montezuma (Costa Rica) shared that Costa Rica also has a national institution on indicators that produced biodiversity-related indicators for the 6NR process. Hannah St. Luce-Martinez (Belize) shared that Belize worked to develop a baseline of data from data sources that already existed. These data were standardized and adapted to the national context. Karl Monty Augustine (St. Lucia) created a quick forestry data collection program that is being used to develop 6NR indicators. Participants concluded by recommending NBSAP and 6NR teams ask the right questions from the beginning when selecting indicators: What can we measure? For which indicators do we have data? What can we easily monitor? Participants also agreed that it is best to have 15 indicators that are measurable and traceable, rather than 200 that cannot be used.

Session 1.4: Introduction to the Data Tracking Tool (Martin Cadena, 6NR Technical Specialist, UNDP | Jose de Gracia, Program Coordinator, Panama)

This session focused on using the 6NR Data Tracking Tool to develop national reports. Martin Cadena gave a brief instructional presentation to introduce the tool, which can be used to share, gather and verify 6NR data among stakeholders. He explained that the tool is pre-populated for each country based on the

strategies, actions, and targets in their NBSAP, and that it has been shared with each country a few times. He also explained how data from the Data Tracking Tool can be extracted to the CBD Online Reporting Tool. Jose de Gracia provided a presentation on how Panama used customized versions of the tool during stakeholder consultations to efficiently collect data on the actions that the different key stakeholders are linked to in the NBSAP.

After the presentations, participants broke into groups by language and region (two groups in English, one group in Spanish) and conducted an exercise. Facilitators moved across working groups to ensure the discussion was ongoing and to address technical questions. This was followed by a plenary discussion on the usefulness of the tool and its relevance for each country:

- Mr. Juan Quiñones (Guatemala) mentioned the tool was useful for the planning process and for detecting gaps. It helped to identify some gaps within the NBSAP, such as the lack of explicit links between the actions, the National Targets and the Aichi Targets. The team sees a potential to continue using the tool beyond the reporting process, as a file to support tracking and decision-making process.
- Helena Jeffery (Antigua and Barbuda) highlighted some inconsistencies between the data tracking tool and the CBD Online Reporting Tool: in the Excel spreadsheet, the main unit of analysis is the action, while in the CBD Online Reporting Tool, the main unit of analysis is the National Targets. Helena also shared some tips for the “Obstacles and capacity needs” tab. She suggested an interviewer should ask stakeholders for the appropriate level of information and should fill the tab.
- Regarding the inconsistencies between the unit of analysis, Martin answered that ideally the sum of actions and the effectiveness in implementing them should derive in the overall level of progress on a National Target.

[Session 1.5: Stakeholder Engagement and Gender Consideration in National Reporting \(Marion Marigo, 6NR Technical Specialist, UNDP | Thérèse Yarde, Consultant, Saint Vincent and Grenadines | Eugenia Arguedas Montezuma, CBD Focal Point, Costa Rica\)](#)

Marion Marigo opened the last session of Day 1 with a brief presentation on the importance of, and methods for, involving stakeholder engagement and mainstreaming gender during the reporting process. Thérèse Yarde gave a presentation on stakeholder engagement and inclusion in St. Vincent and Grenadines. She highlighted the initial challenges, solutions found, and the lessons learned. Eugenia Arguedas Montezuma gave a presentation on gender, women, and spatial data in Costa Rica. She explained the national process of involving women in the 6NR. She explained how Costa Rica is using GIS technology to map sex-disaggregated data, and shared several maps that show the relationship between biodiversity conservation and lands managed by women.

After the presentations, participants engaged in a plenary discussion. Key outcomes were:

- Sex-disaggregated data are quantitative data that reflect the number of women involved in a conservation project. Quantitative data must also be supported by qualitative data that reflect women’s role in biodiversity conservation, beyond numbers;
- Supporting women with funds, payment and micro-credit is helpful; nonetheless, emphasis must be put on the equal right for both women and men to own lands and tools.

DAY 2 OVERVIEW

Session 2.1: Spatial Data and the UN Biodiversity Lab (Scott Atkinson, Spatial Planning Expert, UNDP | Julian Walcott, Technical Officer, BIOPAMA | Hannah St. Luce-Martinez, 6NR Coordinator, Belize | Helena Jeffery-Brown, Technical Coordinator, Antigua & Barbuda)

The second day of the workshop started with a session on spatial data given by Julian Walcott. He provided a brief introduction to BIOPAMA's work and mandate. He then presented the Caribbean Protected Areas Gateway (Caribbean Gateway), which is an online resource hub that provides a variety of tools, and services and funding to conservation actors in the Caribbean. He also introduced the Regional Reference Information System (RRIS), which is an open-source platform allowing countries to use spatial data to enhance biodiversity conservation plans and policies. The platform is accessible at <http://rris.biopama.org> and has a Geonode element accessible at <http://geonode-rris.biopama.org/>. He also described how the Caribbean Gateway is using Yammer, a social networking platform, to communicate and exchange information on biodiversity-related topics to improve the effectiveness of actions.

Following his presentation, Scott Atkinson introduced the UN Biodiversity Lab and explained its features. He noted the platform allows users to upload data safely and communicate global conservation success stories. In regards to the Aichi Biodiversity Target 5, the platform allows the user to define a particular land cover type, e.g. forest cover loss 2000 – 2017. The platform could also examine the rate of loss in ecoregions, the connected coverage of ecoregions, protected area management effectiveness, species richness, and threatened species richness. It was noted that data gaps exist possibly because the information was either not submitted or there were legal reasons for data privacy. Scott encouraged participants to notify their respective World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) focal points within the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) if their country's information was incorrect. Hyacinth Armstrong-Vaughn indicated that the UNEP-WCMC is an official partner of the BIOPAMA programme and will be working with the Caribbean Protected Areas Gateway to update the information in the WDPA for the BIOPAMA project countries.

Scott then circulated 18 draft Biodiversity Status Maps that the Global 6NR team developed for each country. They provide spatial data that can help countries access their progress to meet Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5, 11, 12, 14 and 15.

Participants then completed group and individual exercises related to the draft Biodiversity Status Maps. In small groups, participants worked together to better understand where opportunities lie to use the data in these maps to improve reporting, enhance conservation policies, and make better conservation decisions.

During the plenary discussion, participants generally remarked:

- Data shared in the National Project is not always accepted and validated by countries government and officials;
- Summaries of the data and methods used to develop each map are needed;
- Instructions are needed on how to download the global polygon and raster data from the UN Biodiversity Lab and use it in a country's own GIS.

Following the group discussion, Hannah St. Luce-Martinez presented Belize's efforts to develop a national biodiversity baseline. She shared how this data is being used to prepare the 6NR and report on NBSAP implementation. She mentioned two challenges the team faced: (1) the lack of spatial data baseline and (2) the short timeframe given to prepare the report. She then explained how the national team developed a spatial data baseline; and addressed issues of data quality, condition, geographic coverage, and assessing changes over time. Belize hired a consultant that helped build the country's capacity to use GIS and develop the biodiversity baseline. The consultant helped to spatialize each NBSAP action, as well as identify related indicators. There is a crucial need to continue collecting data and interagency collaboration.

Helena Jeffery-Brown presented Antigua & Barbuda's Environmental Information and Management System (EIMAS), which hosts environmental information and is based on the ArcGIS Spatial platform. She explained how the tool was developed, as well as its challenges. Unfortunately, few datasets on the platform have been analyzed further to produce qualitative and quantitative analysis; this is mostly due to a lack of coordinated efforts to conduct robust and comprehensive studies of the biology and ecosystems of Antigua and Barbuda.

Session 2.2: Reporting Strategies that are focused on Sustainable Finance (Karen McDonald Gayle, Program Manager, CBF)

During this session, Karen McDonald Gayle, Conservation Finance Program Manager for the CBF, introduced the CBF and the National Conservation Trust Funds (NCTFs). She:

- Explained the functioning and organization of the CBF Endowment, and its relevance when it comes to biodiversity conservation;
- Highlighted the eligibility criteria for NCTFs to qualify for CBF Endowment Payments;
- Explained the different phases of supporting a project through the Trust Funds;
- Described the different financial mechanisms existing in CBF – the Endowment Fund and the Ecosystem Based Adaptation sinking fund that gives grants directly to beneficiaries; and
- Showed how sustainable finance is in line with the ABTs and the SDGs.

Participants asked Karen about the targets set for the Trust Funds and their funding for national level support. Karen explained that the National Conservation Trust Funds (NCTF) were autonomous, but for CBF reporting the targets were based on international agreements (ABTs and SDGs) and they started from the initial Caribbean Challenge Initiative and have evolved to consider a number of biodiversity and Protected Area targets. She concluded by highlighting the Trust Funds focus on local and national needs. The CBF focuses on the establishing the NCTFs and providing regular funding to create opportunities for them to identify other Sustainable Finance Mechanisms.

Session 2.3: Reporting Strategies that are focused on Effective Protected Area Management (Karen McDonald Gayle, Program Manager, CBF | Hyacinth Armstrong-Vaughn, IUCN Protected Areas Officer, BIOPAMA Regional Coordinator)

Hyacinth Armstrong-Vaughn, Protected Areas Officer, BIOPAMA, opened this session. She:

- Introduced the work being done under the BIOPAMA Programme and its actions around the world to support effective protected area management through the application of protected area management effectiveness (PAME) and governance;
- Presented BIOPAMA's vision for 2017 – 2023: "BIOPAMA aims to reinforce the management and governance of protected and conserved areas in the 79 African, Caribbean and Pacific countries through better use and monitoring of information and capacity development on management and governance";
- Identified the Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA) that aims to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of protected areas management. Through this work, some PAME assessments are being undertaken in the Caribbean. Those results have been/should be reported in the national reports to the CBD.

Following Hyacinth's presentation, Karen McDonald Gayle introduced the Caribbean Challenge Initiative (CCI), with a focus on monitoring and measuring effective partnerships. The CCI is working with the

Bahamas, British Virgin Islands, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenadines, and US Virgin Islands. She:

- Explained CCI Goal 1, which is to “conserve and effectively manage at least 20% of the marine and coastal environment by 2020”; and CCI Goal 2, which is to “To put in place fully functioning finance mechanisms that provide long-term, reliable funding to ensure marine and coastal areas are sustainably managed into the future”. The CBF presentation discussed Goal 2;
- It was noted that CCI was a target agreed to by 11 Caribbean Countries and was in excess of the ABT for marine conservation;
- There were a number of challenges faced in reporting on this target, especially as a region. Countries had varying definitions, reporting and government systems and the coordination needed for more accurate assessments and responses; and
- Provided an overview of the monitoring of progress for each country.

Session 2.4: Potential Synergies for Reporting and Implementing (Julian Walcott, Technical Officer & Hyacinth Armstrong-Vaughn, IUCN Protected Areas Officer, BIOPAMA Regional Coordinator)

Julian Walcott and Hyacinth Armstrong-Vaughn (BIOPAMA) presented this session, which focused on the Caribbean Protected Areas Gateway (Caribbean Gateway). The Caribbean Gateway functions as a resource hub for facilitating and promoting the decisions and policies that decision makers and resource managers make for effective and sustainable management of protected areas and biodiversity. It constitutes a hub for protected area research and innovation, where information and best-practice is shared among Parties. It is also a tool to help build capacity, and that facilitates and promotes better decision making and viable decisions through, for example, the development of policy briefs.

Julian highlighted the central role played by the regional observatories in data collection, analysis, monitoring and reporting, as well as in developing staff and organisation capacity to manage this information and provide policy guidance for better decision-making on biodiversity conservation. Hyacinth focused on the important role played by local staff, called the CREW – Credible, Reliable, Energetic and Willing to contribute. The CREW reside in the countries working with BIOPAMA and are pertinent and up-to-date with local and national data, information, and knowledge. They use the platform Yammer to discuss efficiently among stakeholders, especially in the field. All participants were invited to join Yammer and participate in the various discussion groups. Participants were then asked to review and provide feedback on the relevance of the information being sought in the national data profile template developed by the Caribbean Gateway. The aim of the national data profile is to capture ecological, socioeconomic, governance and management information relevant to biodiversity and protected area management at national and site level for display in the Caribbean Gateway.

Session 2.5: Assessing the effectiveness of measures to achieve ABT and National Targets (Christina Supples, UNDP | Francisco Aceituno, Honduras)

For the last topic of the workshop, Christina Supples gave a brief presentation regarding methods to assess the effectiveness of measures to achieve the ABTs and National Targets. She explained the expectations in COP Decision CBD-COP-DEC-XIII-27, accessible here: <https://bit.ly/2XdA7zE>.

During the workshop, Christina identified three ways that countries are interpreting the term “measure”:

1. Measures are mostly equivalent to NBSAP strategies, and therefore report on the implementation and effectiveness of high-level groupings of actions with the NBSAP. The measures come directly from the NBSAP.

2. Measures are equivalent to high-level groupings of NBSAP actions.
3. Measures are a new level of reporting that is in addition to, and above the targets, strategies, and actions in the NBSAP. In these national reports, there are usually themes like forestry, marine, sustainable development, which are related to the NBSAP but not stated in it. They don't have as clear links to the national targets and strategies and actions within the NBSAP.

She explained that “measures” in Section II of 6NR, as indicated in the 6NR, could be measures or actions taken to implement NBSAP and national targets. Countries can report on any major measures taken to implement the Convention and its Strategic Plan at national level. Information or content in this section may overlap with those in Sections III and IV; however, one reason countries are asked to report on measures is that reporting on NBSAP implementation provides a fundamental basis for assessment of progress in achieving ABTs. It also helps countries to assess the effectiveness of measures for the first time. This is important to know impacts of implementation, which in turn is important for the decision making process under the CBD. She concluded her talk by explaining the importance of the CBD template in organizing and standardizing the report. This will support the experts working on the Fifth Global Biodiversity Outlook, the post-2020 Framework, and NBSAP implementation.

Francisco Aceituno', Environmental Analyst working with the Department of Biodiversity, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, in Honduras, followed. He described the process undertaken by his country to assess the progress being made to implement the NBSAP, and mentioned the stakeholders involved and the participatory processes used. He highlighted the methodology used to evaluate the progress for each ABT at the national level. He also shared the immediate next steps to finalize the report and continue with NBSAP implementation.

CLOSING REMARKS

Closing remarks were provided by:

- Danielle Evanson, Programme Manager, UNDP Barbados
- Christina Supples, Senior Technical Project Advisor, Global 6NR Project, UNDP

Danielle Evanson began closing the meeting by summarizing the main points discussed during the meeting. She highlighted the need to build an efficient data management system in the region, so that countries would have the capacity to collect and validate data in a more systematic way. Biodiversity data should be made more accessible and available. She also noted the need to adopt a more holistic vision for protected areas management, including efficient monitoring and sustainable financing.

Christina Supples concluded the workshop by highlighting the main points discussed during the workshop. Countries recognized a need to:

- Build in-house data management mechanisms and spatially explicit monitoring systems that allow them to systematize the collection, sharing, and analysis of data, during national reporting and NBSAP development and implementation;
- Refine biodiversity indicators to track measurable changes in the status of nature, and the impact of actions to protect it; and reflect the contribution of all stakeholders (including IPLCS and women), and ensure that impacts are measured in a consistent way;
- Obtain political support in accessing, sharing and using spatial data for better decision making;
- Continue to receive access to training and capacity building activities on spatial data after the submission of 6NR;
- Work with data providers to update global databases with accurate and validated national data;
- Develop information national baselines of biodiversity data;
- Need to develop, access, and share spatial data, and to use it to make decisions; and
- Need to better capture important biodiversity data from indigenous and local communities, and to understand the different roles of women and men in biodiversity conservation.

From here, these 17 countries will complete their Sixth National Report and submit it to the CBD by June 2019. The workshop hosts will also continue providing technical support the countries to develop and share the results of their reports through info graphics, policy briefs, and best practices. The reports will also be used to inform the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, review the implementation of the CBD's Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2010-2020, and to help design the post-2020 Global Framework on Biodiversity. Global leaders will use the information to set the stage for bold new targets for nature that will define conservation action for the next decade.

POST-CONFERENCE SURVEY

Before concluding the workshop, UNDP circulated a brief survey with participants to collect feedback on the organization of the report and its content. Twenty participants completed the survey. The report can be accessed here: <https://bit.ly/2TYeH7C>.

The results include:

- 100% of participants considered the workshop to be ‘good’ (25%), ‘very good’ (55%) or ‘excellent’ (20%);
- 90% of participants considered the workshop to be ‘very organized’ (70%) or ‘extremely organized’ (20%);
- 100% of participants considered the technical support team to be ‘very helpful’ (63%) or ‘extremely helpful’ (37%);

The five most useful topics included:

- 1) Presentations and experiences from other countries;
- 2) Sharing about gender mainstreaming and maps;
- 3) Exchanging best practices and lessons learned among countries, especially the group discussions;
- 4) Explanations about the process and tools available for the project; and
- 5) Learning about spatial data.

For possible future workshops, participants recommend to having one or two additional days to deepen the discussions and focus on specific topics. They also recommended reducing the duration of each day, and investing in simultaneous translation services.

ANNEXES

Annex I: Workshop Agenda

AGENDA: CBD-6NR Technical Support Workshop for the Caribbean Region			
Location: UNDP Regional Office, Christ Church, Barbados			
DAY 1: Wednesday, January 23, 2019			
Time	Activity	Description	Facilitator
09:00 - 09:30	Welcoming Remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High level remarks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chisa Mikami, Resident Representative, UNDP OECS Karen McDonald Gayle, Conservation Finance Program Manager, Caribbean Biodiversity Fund Hyacinth Armstrong-Vaughn IUCN Regional Office for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean, BIOPAMA
09:30 - 09:40	Agenda and Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agenda overview Facilitator introductions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christina Supples, UNDP
09:40 - 10:30	Progress to Complete 6NR (1.1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participant introductions 6NR progress and challenges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christina Supples, UNDP
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break/ Group Photo		
11:00 - 11:20	Overview of the 6NR structure and project plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6NR Structure 6NR Project Workplan Q&A discussion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Martin Cadena, UNDP
11:20-12:00	Presentation of Available Tools and guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of resources and tools Q&A discussion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Martin Cadena, UNDP
12:00-13:00	Lunch		
13:00-14:10	Topic 1: Using biodiversity indicators in national reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topic Introduction (10) Small group exercise (40) Q&A discussion (20) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christina Supples, UNDP
14:10-15:30	Topic 2: Introduction to the 6NR Data Tracking Tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topic Introduction (15) Example: Panama (15) Small group exercise (40) Q&A discussion (10) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Martin Cadena, UNDP Jose de Gracia, Sustainable Development Cluster, UNDP Panama
15:30-16:00	Coffee break		
16:00-17:30	Topic 3: Stakeholder engagement and gender considerations in national reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topic Introduction (15) Example: Barbados (15) Example: Costa Rica (15) Small group exercise (30) Q&A discussion (10) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marion Marigo, UNDP Dr. Thérèse Yarde, Consultant, St Vincent & Grenadines Eugenia Arguedas Montezuma, CBD Focal Point, Costa Rica

AGENDA: DAY 2 – Thursday, January 24, 2019

Time	Activity	Description	Facilitator
09:00-9:10	Day 1 Recap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflections on Day 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christina Supples, UNDP
09:10-10:10	Topic 4: Spatial data and UN Biodiversity Lab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional data & platforms (30): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Caribbean Protected Areas Gateway ○ UN Biodiversity Lab • Example: Belize (15) • Ex: Antigua and Barbuda (15) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CBF /BIOPAMA • Scott Atkinson, UNDP • Hannah St. Luce- Martinez, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry, Belize • Helena Jeffery Brown, Dept of the Environment, Ministry of Health, Wellness, Environment, Antigua and Barbuda
10:10-10:30	Coffee break		
10:30-12:00	Topic 4: Spatial data and UN Biodiversity Lab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small group exercise (60) • Q&A discussion (30) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scott Atkinson, UNDP
12:00-13:00	Lunch		
13:00-14:00	Topic 5: Reporting strategies that are focused on sustainable finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief presentation of topic (30) • Q&A discussion (30) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karen McDonald Gayle, Conservation Finance Program Manager, Caribbean Biodiversity Fund
14:00-15:00	Topic 6: Reporting strategies that are focused on effective protected area management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caribbean Challenge Initiative: Effective marine protected area management effectiveness (30) • Q&A discussion (30) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IUCN and CCI
15:00-15:30	Coffee break		
15:30-16:30	Topic 7: Potential synergies for reporting and implementing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caribbean Protected Areas Gateway: a mechanism to support reporting and implementing (30) • Q&A discussion (30) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julian Walcott. BIOPAMA • Hyacinth Armstrong-Vaughn, BIOPAMA
16:30 – 17:30	Topic 8: Assessing the effectiveness of measures to achieve ABT and National Targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief presentation of topic (15) • Ex: Dominican Republic (15) • Ex: Honduras (15) • Small group exercise (30) • Q&A discussion (15) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christina Supples, UNDP • Roberto Sanchez, Technical and Administrative Assistant, 6NR • Francisco Aceituno, Environmental Analyst, Department of Biodiversity, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
17:30-18:00	Closing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conclusions • Next steps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Danielle Evanson, UNDP OECS • Christina Supples, UNDP

Annex II: List of Participants

Participants and countries' representatives

Antigua & Barbuda	Ms. Helena Jeffery Brown	6NR Team leader, Technical Coordinator	helenajefferybrown@ab.gov.ag
Bahamas	Ms. Sydnei Cartwright	Environmental Officer	scartwright@best.gov.bs
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BIOPAMA	Ms. Hyacinth Armstrong Vaughn	Protected Areas Officer	hyacinth.armstrongvaughn@iucn.org
BIOPAMA	Dr. Julian Walcott	Technical Officer	walcott.julian@gmail.com
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El Salvador	Mr. Melvin José Pérez Ozuna	Technical Specialist, REDD+	melvin.ozuna@yahoo.es
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St. Vincent & Grenadines	Dr. Therese Yarde	Consultant	therese.yarde@gmail.com
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UNDP Barbados	Mrs. Danielle Evanson	Programme Manager	danielle.evanson@undp.org
UNDP Barbados	Ms. Melissa Bohne	Programme Assistant	melissa.bohne@undp.org

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Ms. Christina Supples
Mr. Diego Ochoa
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Annex III: Links to presentations

17. Master Presentation, English: <https://bit.ly/2UHV1VC>
18. Master Presentation, Spanish: <https://bit.ly/2tfX9Z3>

19. Presentation from Panama on the Data Tracking Tool: <https://bit.ly/2Dh5tfo>
20. Presentation from St. Vincent & Grenadines on Stakeholder Engagement: <https://bit.ly/2HRxwrv>
21. Presentation from Costa Rica on Gender: <https://bit.ly/2G91pBO>
22. Presentation from Belize on Spatial Data: <https://bit.ly/2WFPW1T>
23. Presentation from Antigua & Barbuda on Spatial Data: <https://bit.ly/2HQUYoz>
24. Presentation from Honduras on Assessing the effectiveness of measures to achieve ABT and National Targets: <https://bit.ly/2UKDs7o>

25. Presentation from the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund on Reporting strategies that are focused on sustainable finance: <https://bit.ly/2SwI3wq>
26. Presentation from BIOPAMA on effective protected area management: <https://bit.ly/2GqYvYo>
27. Presentation from the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund on Reporting strategies that are focused on effective protected area management – Caribbean Challenge Initiative: <https://bit.ly/2WGejMK>
28. Presentation from BIOPAMA on Potential synergies for reporting and implementing: <https://bit.ly/2DU5SGm>

Annex IV: Links to Posters

- Antigua and Barbuda, Using Spatial Data to Develop the National Report: <https://bit.ly/2I6yJLH>
- Belize, Using Spatial Data to Develop the National Report: <https://bit.ly/2UV3B34>
- Costa Rica, Mainstreaming Gender Consideration in your 6NR: <https://bit.ly/2E6CZXi>
- Dominican Republic, Assessing the Effectiveness of NBSAP Implementation: <https://bit.ly/2GniEPU>
- Honduras, Assessing the Effectiveness of NBSAP Implementation: <https://bit.ly/2SS0n3n>
- Panama, Stakeholder Engagement and National Coordination: <https://bit.ly/2N1c8il>
- St. Vincent & Grenadines, Stakeholder Engagement and National Coordination: <https://bit.ly/2SifnRg>

Annex V: Photos and Videos

- Link to the workshop's photos folder:
 - Wednesday 23 January: <https://bit.ly/2BVpfxT>
 - Thursday 24 January: <https://bit.ly/2NlnONi>
- Link to the workshop's videos folder: <https://bit.ly/2SVg36M>