



CARIBBEAN CSO ATTENDEES

ECW-Caribbean

GRENADA, MAY 2017



CASE STUDIES

Extended Constituency Workshop -Caribbean Report of the Civil Society Organizations to the GEF

Prepared by
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Introduction

The **GEF Extended Constituency Workshop (ECW)** was held on the 16th to 19th May in Grenada.

The ECW aimed at keeping the GEF national focal points, convention focal points and other key stakeholders, including civil society, abreast of GEF strategies, policies and procedures and to encourage coordination.

The event was an opportunity for CSO's to meet with their counterparts from other countries in the region and other GEF partners to discuss and review policies and procedures and to share lessons and experiences from development and implementation of GEF projects and their integration within national policy frameworks.

The ECW agenda spanned three days with the first half day (1/2) program dedicated to meeting with Civil Society Organizations. The CSO meeting was chaired by the RFP Environment Tobago REP-Ryan Mohammed and Erecia Hepburn-CSO Bahamas, and covered presentations about the GEF and the CSO network, an assessment of civil society engagement in GEF, GEF 7 replenishment cycle and core challenges experienced by CSO's and establishing a way forward.

The second and third day was chaired by William Ehlers with numerous presentations and hands-on practical exercises on national capacity development (NCSA). SGP updates, and CBF-Caribbean Biodiversity Fund. The agenda also focused on discussions regarding the Cycle harmonization process and provided important updates about the preparations for GEF-7 and the replenishment process. Facilitating synergies in implementing MEA's, Invasive species, cross cutting capacity development in GEF, introduction to GREEN financing and stakeholder engagement and gender mainstreaming. Training sessions included, multi-stakeholder ecosystem scorecards as well as the Art of knowledge exchange. Finally, field trips related to ongoing projects in the region.



CSO Field Trip

The Caribbean GEF NGO Network constituency comprises twenty countries:

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.

Thirteen (13) CSO's participated from eleven (11) countries at this year's ECW:

GEF CSO Network members from (1) Haiti and (2) Trinidad & Tobago

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Ryan Mohommed	Trinidad & Tobago	ryanmohammed@gmail.com	Environment Tobago and ERIC

Discussions, Issues and Recommendations from CSO meeting:

The CSO meeting having been reduced to 4 ½ hrs /1/2 day meeting resulting in a condensation of discussion items and matters of importance. 10 of the 13 CSO's present were NOT members of the CSO Network. The RFP for the region was not available due to critical family issues. An RFP REP from Environment Tobago-Ryan Mohammed was assigned the successful task of chairing meeting with the assistance of CSO from Bahamas-Erecia Hepburn. Therefore the 1st and 2nd sessions dealt with a familiarisation with the GEF and the GEF CSO Network and an update on the IEO report from the GEF on the CSO network. Information on accessing documents for meetings was supplied. All presentations were made

available to attendees. Session 3 –dealt with upcoming discussion on the GEF 7 replenishment- these documents were provided for discussion in the main ECW meeting. Session 4- A discussion on capacity needs and regional issues relating to participation in GEF discussions as stated below.

Issues-

- More CSO Network members from the region should have been supported to attend meeting.
- Funding to support the RFP work needs to be supplied by the GEF secretariat or other funding agencies to allow greater outreach for enabling further CSO's to become members.
- Greater participation between CSO's and country OFP's/PFP's to be fostered by the SGP and UNDP in country platforms in all Caribbean nations.
- CSO's need to receive all documents pertaining to CSO meeting and ECW in advance to allow review for a more structured approach.

Actual ECW Knowledge sharing workshop case study- marine protected park, Phillipeans-

RFP/REP from T&T was asked the following questions regarding the proposed MPA for NE Tobago-Trinidad & Tobago. The response can only be supported by information from the OFP/PFP –Dr.David Persaud who was present at the meeting- he would have had to disclose the current impasse and political ramifications of divisions in the various Ministries and areas of responsibility pertaining to the questions below.

- a) What is the status of the NE Tobago Marine Protected Park?
Slowly moving forward- being driven by a stakeholder committee and the THA (Tobago House of Assembly)
- b) What is the major hindrance in the establishment of the park?
Political will and confusion between Ministries and the responsibility of the Tobago House of Assembly in environmental matters.
- c) What has to happen to ensure the park is established within the time line?
This timeline will not be accomplished. The issue of sustainability after declaration, is of major concern-A Trust is being considered.

THE END

See annexes for agendas- Pages 6 and 7

AGENDA FOR GEF CSO NETWORK DURING GEF ECW, Caribbean

Grenada

Time	Details
8.00 – 8:30	<i>Ryan Mohammed-REP for RFP Caribbean and William Ehlers, GEF Secretariat</i>
8:30 – 9:30	SESSION 1: INTRODUCTION Moderated by Ryan Mohammed-RFP Caribbean <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-introductions of all CSO's present • Objectives and agenda of ECW meeting • An Overview of GEF and the GEF-CSO Network • Update on evaluation of GEF CSO Network by IEO-William Ehlers.
9:30 – 10.00	Coffee break
10.00 – 11.30	SESSION 2: GEF RELATED ISSUES Moderated by: Ryan Mohammed, Erecia Hepburn and William Ehlers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion and inputs from CSOs on level of engagement of CSOs in GEF Program implementation and SGP implementation in respective countries/region- Erecia Hepburn/CSO. • Discussion- Ad Hoc Working Council Report on Relationship-GEF and Civil Society. Ryan Mohammed REP for-RFP
11.30 – 12.00	SESSION 3: GEF 7 PROCESSES Moderated by Ryan Mohammed REP for- RFP Caribbean

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GEF7 Replenishment-Reports and CSO input
12.00-13.00	SESSION 4: THE WAY FORWARD Moderated by –Erecia Hepburn-CSO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion of options to enhance CSO engagement in GEF CSO Network activities in the region • Capacity strengthening needs and opportunities for CSOs • Summary of deliberations and meeting outcome to the ECW Closing
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch

GEF Expanded Constituency Workshop – Draft Agenda

Radisson Grenada | St. George, Grenada | May 16-19, 2017

DAY 1 – Monday, May 15, 2017	
09:00 – 12:30	Caribbean Constituency Meetings (OFP/PFPs)
12:30 – 14:00	LUNCH
14:00 – 16:00	Constituency Meetings (contd.) – Reporting back from First Replenishment Meeting
16:00 – 18:00	Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) Meeting
DAY 2 – Tuesday, May 16, 2017	
09:00 – 12:00	CSO Meeting (CSOs)
09:30 – 11:30	OECS / CCN Meeting
12:00 – 13:30	LUNCH

13:30 – 17:30	SGP Consultation (<i>CSOs and OFP/PFPs and GEF Agencies</i>)
17:30 – 19:30	Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF) Meeting
DAY 3 – Wednesday, May 17, 2017	
08:30 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:30	Opening Remarks
09:30 – 10:30	Update on GEF-7 Replenishment
10:30 – 12:00	GEF Independent Evaluation Office
12:00 – 13:30	LUNCH
13:30 – 15:15	Facilitating synergies in implementing Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) towards sustainable development – Exercise & Q&A Session
15:15 – 17:00	Multi-stakeholder/Ecosystem Scorecard Simulation Game
17:00 – 17:15	Presentation on Invasive Species
18:00 – 20:00	Reception
DAY 4 – Thursday, May 18, 2017	
08:30 – 13:00	ART of Knowledge Exchange Training
13:00 – 14:30	LUNCH
14:30 – 15:30	Cross-Cutting Capacity Development in the GEF – Exercise & Q&A Session
15:30 – 16:30	Introduction to Green Finance – Q&A Session
16:30 – 17:30	Stakeholder engagement & Gender mainstreaming – Exercise & Q&A Session
17:30 – 18:30	Wrap-up and Surveys
DAY 5 – Friday, May 19, 2017	
08:00 – 16:00	Knowledge Day – Project Visit