UN Environment & the Global Environment Facility

A natural partnership for our planet
The UN Environment–GEF partnership

A 25-year+ alliance
As a founding GEF partner, UN Environment has been a key implementer and advisor since 1991

Over 900 projects
Together we have collaborated on over 926 projects across more than 160 countries

**Over $1.8 billion in funding**
The GEF has invested more than $1.8 billion in UN Environment-led activities to date
Since 1991, UN Environment and the GEF have collaborated across 162 countries. Our current projects cover 150 countries.
Our portfolio

- **Land Degradation**: 73 projects, $131 million
- **International Waters**: 75 projects, $336 million
- **Climate Change Mitigation**: 146 projects, $338 million
- **Climate Change Adaptation**: 55 projects, $174 million
- **Biodiversity**: 359 projects, $662 million
- **Capacity Building**: 52 projects, $32 million
- **Chemicals and Waste**: 166 projects, $221 million

Total: **926 projects, $1.8 billion**

US dollars; November 2017
Biodiversity

Preserving ecosystems, balancing benefits
UN Environment and the GEF have collaborated on Biodiversity projects across 150 countries, with GEF investment of over $660 million.
Biodiversity

Key intervention areas

- Assisting countries to improve the sustainability of protected area systems such as national parks and biosphere reserves
- Helping countries to effectively conserve biodiversity in productive landscapes and sectors
- Developing capacity for all countries to benefit from and share their genetic resources and the traditional knowledge that goes with them
- Helping countries to integrate conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into national planning processes

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Our comparative advantage

UN Environment has played a central role in negotiating, informing and implementing a number of key Multilateral Environmental Agreements.

We currently host the secretariats of:

- Convention on Biological Diversity
- Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora & Fauna
Our comparative advantage

UN Environment’s team of biodiversity experts are leaders in their field, producing cutting-edge research, developing new approaches and refining them in the field.

Areas we have led innovation in include:

- Access & Benefit Sharing
- Agricultural Biodiversity
- Biosafety
- Green Economy & Finance
GEF-7: Biodiversity

Focal Area Investments

- Biodiversity mainstreaming
- Global Wildlife Programme
- Natural capital
- Agrobiodiversity
- Inclusive conservation
- Invasive species
- Protected areas
- Biosafety
- ABS
- Enabling activities
GEF-7: Biodiversity

Impact Programmes

Food, Land Use and Restoration

• Manage biodiversity in production landscapes
• Harnessing biodiversity for sustainable agriculture

Sustainable Cities

• Integrating biodiversity and ecosystem values in urban planning

Sustainable Forest Management

• Protection of HCV forests
• Manage biodiversity in forest landscapes
Land Degradation

Healthy landscapes for people and planet
UN Environment and the GEF have collaborated on Land Degradation projects across 162 countries, with GEF investment of over $130 million.
Land Degradation

Key intervention areas

- Promoting sustainable land management practices through projects such as Sustainable Rangeland Management for Biodiversity Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation

- Establishing the portal of the Performance Review and Assessment of Implementation System (PRAIS) for countries to report to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification

- Building the capacity of countries to meet their obligations under the Convention – such as information gathering, national and regional strategy development, public awareness raising and capacity building
GEF-7: Land Degradation

Focal Area Investments

- Creating Enabling Environments for Land Degradation Neutrality
- Land Degradation Neutrality target setting
- Enabling activities
GEF-7: Land Degradation

Impact Programmes

**Food, Land Use and Restoration**
- Sustainable land management
- Diversification of crop and livestock systems
- Restoration of degraded production landscapes
- Land-based and value chain GHG mitigation (*sequestration/avoidance*)

**Urban-related GHG emissions avoidance**
- Sustainable management of production systems in urban and peri-urban areas

**Sustainable Forest Management**
- Sustainable management of dryland landscapes
- Protection of carbon-rich stocks
- Forest-related GHG emissions avoidance
Portfolio of UN Environment – National GEF BD / LD Projects in the Caribbean (January 2019)

National Projects (13)
- 7 countries
- 8 Full Size Projects, 5 Medium Size Projects
- 4 BD projects, 2 LD projects, 7 Multi-Focal projects

Regional Projects (8)
- 15 countries
- 2 Full Size Projects, 6 Medium Size Projects
- 6 BD projects, 1 LD project, 1 Multi-Focal project
UN Environment Areas of Experience

1) Natural resource economy / natural capital (The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity - TEEB; Blue Finance)
2) Invasive Alien Species (IAS)
3) Protected Areas (Terrestrial and Marine)
4) Ecosystem Restoration
5) Biosafety
6) Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)
7) Land Degradation (collaboration with the regional Partnership Initiative for Sustainable Land Management - PISLM)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full Title</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Focal Areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Path to 2020 - Antigua and Barbuda</td>
<td>Antigua and Barbuda</td>
<td>FSP</td>
<td>BD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable Pathways - Protected Areas and Renewable Energy</td>
<td>Antigua and Barbuda</td>
<td>FSP</td>
<td>BD / CC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthening Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)</td>
<td>Bahamas</td>
<td>MSP</td>
<td>BD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting the Challenge of 2020 in The Bahamas</td>
<td>Bahamas</td>
<td>FSP</td>
<td>BD / CC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pine Islands-Forest/Mangrove Innovation and Integration (Grand Bahamas, New Providence, Abaco and Andros)</td>
<td>Bahamas</td>
<td>FSP</td>
<td>BD / LD / SFM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agrobiodiversity: Conservation and Man and the Biosphere Reserves in Cuba: Bridging Managed and Natural Landscapes</td>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>MSP</td>
<td>BD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creation of Additional Biosafety Capacities that Lead to A Full Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in Cuba</td>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>MSP</td>
<td>BD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthening resilience of agricultural lands and forests in Dominica in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria</td>
<td>Dominica</td>
<td>MSP</td>
<td>LD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable Land Management in the Commonwealth of Dominica</td>
<td>Dominica</td>
<td>MSP</td>
<td>LD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecosystem Approach to Haiti Cote Sud</td>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>FSP</td>
<td>BD / LD / CCM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving Environmental Management through Sustainable Land Management in St. Kitts and Nevis</td>
<td>St. Kitts</td>
<td>FSP</td>
<td>BD / LD / CCM / SFM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iyanola- Natural Resource Management of the NE Coast</td>
<td>St. Lucia</td>
<td>FSP</td>
<td>BD / LD / CCM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated Ecosystem Management and Restoration of Forests on the South East Coast of Saint Lucia</td>
<td>St. Lucia</td>
<td>FSP</td>
<td>BD / LD / CCM / SFM / REDD1</td>
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<td>Full Title</td>
<td>Countries (in Caribbean)</td>
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<td>Focal Areas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advancing Conservation in the Countries of the OECS</td>
<td>Antigua &amp; Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia</td>
<td>MSP</td>
<td>BD / LD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project for Implementing National Biosafety Frameworks in the Caribbean Sub-region</td>
<td>Bahamas, Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Suriname, Trinidad &amp; Tobago, St. Vincent &amp; the Grenadines, St. Lucia, Barbados, Dominica, Antigua &amp; Barbuda, St. Kitts &amp; Nevis</td>
<td>FSP</td>
<td>BD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preventing COSTS of Invasive Alien Species (IAS) in Barbados and the OECS Countries</td>
<td>Antigua &amp; Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, St. Kitts &amp; Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenadines</td>
<td>FSP</td>
<td>BD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advancing the Nagoya protocol in countries of the Caribbean Region</td>
<td>Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Kitts &amp; Nevis, St. Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago</td>
<td>MSP</td>
<td>BD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support to Preparation of the Interim National Report on the Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol</td>
<td>Antigua and Barbuda, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Guyana</td>
<td>MSP</td>
<td>BD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEF support to UNCCD 2018 National Reporting Process</td>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>MSP</td>
<td>LD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support to Preparation of the Third National Biosafety Reports to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety</td>
<td>Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Kitts And Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago</td>
<td>MSP</td>
<td>BD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge for Action: Promoting Innovation among Environmental Funds</td>
<td>Belize, Dominican Republic, Suriname</td>
<td>MSP</td>
<td>BD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Potential GEF – UN Environment projects under GEF 7

Three potential regional projects currently under development:

1. Ocean Wealth Investment Project
2. Advancing the Nagoya Protocol in the Caribbean Region Phase II
3. Building Sustainable Biosafety Regulatory Systems in the Caribbean Sub-Region
Ocean Wealth Investment Project

Lead Partners: TNC / CBF / UN Environment

Focal Areas: BD & IW

Target Countries: CCI and/or CBF member countries and others that have expressed an interest in joining CCI and CBF

Overview: Will be provided by TNC and CBF
Advancing the Nagoya Protocol in the Caribbean Region Phase II

Lead Partners: IUCN/UN Environment

Focal Area: BD

Target Countries: CARICOM member states

Objective: Support country members of CARICOM in developing/enhancing programs, policies and legislation to ensure the sustainable access to genetic resources and the sharing of the benefits to be derived from the commercialization of such resources in order to ensure the uptake of the Nagoya Protocol in each country.
Advancing the Nagoya Protocol (cont.)

Background
• To date, the IUCN and UN Environment, through the project “Advancing the Nagoya Protocol in Countries in the Caribbean Region”, have sought to assist the Caribbean region in reducing their vulnerability to bioprospecting through the development of relevant legislation and policies on ABS. 

• 4 countries (Guyana, Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada and Saint Lucia) were provided assistance to further the development of legislation, policy and regulations to address access to genetic resources and the sharing of its benefits.

• Those 4 countries, as well as the other 4 countries under the project (Trinidad and Tobago, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Jamaica and Barbados), were the recipients of public awareness and education campaigns and other activities relating to accessing genetic resources and the relevant bioprospecting considerations.
Advancing the Nagoya Protocol (cont.)

Proposed Project

• Participative processes to develop policies and regulations relating to community rights and traditional knowledge
• Support adoption of the regional strategy and potentially translate it into a regional agreement
• Support country-level implementation of the Nagoya Protocol through the following areas:
  • Work with countries to ensure that draft instruments are adopted and implemented
  • Work with countries to develop legislation, policies and regulations to address ABS issues
  • Initiate dialogue with the economic sectors that are linked to biodiversity conservation
    • Work with tourism sector to raise awareness and create checkpoints to support compliance
    • Work with the pharmaceutical sector as a way to lay the groundwork for productive long-term ABS relationships.
Advancing the Nagoya Protocol (cont.)

ABS Week

- January 29-31, Port of Spain, Trinidad

- Expert presentations on ABS issues in the Caribbean
  - Advancing the Nagoya Protocol
  - Legislative, Institutional and Policy Issues
  - ABS & Traditional Knowledge
  - The Economics of Genetic Resources

- Detailed presentation on the proposed Phase II project

- Education and Awareness sessions for participants, the general public, and schoolchildren
Building Sustainable Biosafety Regulatory Systems in the Caribbean Sub-Region

Lead Partners: UN Environment, University of West Indies, ICGEB

Focal Areas: BD

Target Countries: Countries in the Caribbean region

Objective: To overcome barriers for the national implementation of biosafety systems in SIDS through regionalizing services and knowledge sharing
Background

The Regional Biosafety Project implemented during the period 2013-2018 involving 12 countries in the CARICOM region resulted in several important outcomes:

• Development of a regionally agreed **regional biosafety policy**
• Proposal for the development of **model legislation** to assist project countries to modify existing biosafety legislation in keeping with the regional biosafety policy.
• Development of a **regional biosafety coordinating network** to support regulatory harmonization, capacity building and public education and outreach.
• A networked **system of national GMO detection laboratories**, supported by more advanced regional laboratories
• **Capacity building** in a range of regulatory practices and approaches, including evaluation of applications, development of legal and administrative procedures, modalities and tools for public participation in decision-making, laboratory detection of biotech products
• A **communication strategy** and technical content to support **public awareness** of biosafety, and the public participation in decision-making
Biosafety in the Caribbean Sub-Region (cont.)

Proposed Project

- **Mainstream regional biosafety management** (implementation of the regional biosafety policy; align national legislation with the regional biosafety policy; establish a regional biosafety network/technical working group and a regional forum; etc.)

- **Strengthen national biosafety capacities to complete implementation of the CPB in targeted Caribbean countries** (align biosafety regulatory systems with national legislation and regional policy; develop decision-making systems to regulate imports; capacity building to implement guidelines and protocols to process applications for authorisation to use LMOs in Containment, Confined field trials (CFT) and for commercial purposes; build capacity of research institutions to manage LMOs in containment and/or confinement and other evolving biotechnologies; strengthen GMO detection laboratories; etc.)

- **Knowledge management** (implement the regional communication strategy; strengthen the regional biosafety website; create an international network of practicing regulatory experts to support work in the region; formulate Caribbean positions for COP-MOP events; address current and future training needs; etc.)
Thank You

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