Enabling Safe and Sustainable Marine Economies across Commonwealth Small Island Developing States

Commonwealth Marine Economies Programme Workshop for the Caribbean Region. Pegasus Hotel, Kingston, Jamaica, 24-26 January 2017.

Executive Summary

The Commonwealth Marine Economies Programme (CME Programme) is an initiative announced by the United Kingdom Government at the 2015 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting to provide technical support, services and expertise to Commonwealth Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The aim of this support is to promote safe and sustainable economic growth and alleviate poverty by harnessing maritime resources, preserving marine environments and facilitating trade.

The British High Commission in Kingston, Jamaica, hosted a CME Programme workshop for the Caribbean region from the 24th to 26th Jamaica 2017. The workshop was formally opened by the British High Commissioner to Jamaica and the Bahamas, His Excellency David Fitton, and Ambassador Marcia Gilbert-Roberts, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade in Jamaica, and brought together key stakeholders representing the interests of 8 Commonwealth governments as well as regional technical agencies, stakeholder organizations and external science agencies and key donors. Annex 1 provides an Attendees List and Annex II provides a link to workshop presentations.

Similar to the CME Partnership workshops in the Pacific and Indian Oceans, the primary purpose of the Caribbean Regional Workshop was to work with the assembled delegates to establish what maritime expertise is most needed throughout the region. The workshop explored how the CME Programme can link to existing regional and national initiatives and partners to help SIDS achieve more sustainable use of marine resources, balancing the requirements of environment, society and economy. The workshop also provided an opportunity to showcase the capability of the three delivery partners in the CME Programme – the Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas), the National Oceanography Centre (NOC) and the UK Hydrographic Office (UKHO) – and demonstrated the UK Government's commitment to the region.

The workshop included both presentations and interactive sessions. The workshop started with introductions to the Blue Economy concept and the CME Programme, and was followed by an interactive session exploring what the term 'Blue Economy' meant to the attending delegates. Day 2 explored the regional and national development priorities and

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how the CME partnership may assist in addressing those needs. Day two also included presentations sharing experiences from the Seychelles Blue Economy journey and UN Environment Caribbean Programme. The final day of the workshop focused on identifying country specific needs and potential projects that could be taken forward. The workshop closed with a summary from the workshop Chair and final words from the British High Commissioner to Jamaica and the Bahamas, His Excellency David Fitton.

Based on the input from the national governments and regional organisations present at the workshop, a wide range of topics that would benefit from collaboration with the CME Programme were identified. Examples include seabed mapping, resource assessments of the coastal environment, advice in relation to coastal erosion, fisheries management, further development of emergency response capabilities, technology transfer to support sea level rise monitoring, water quality monitoring and characterisation of the impacts of terrestrial run-off on the marine environment, and risks to coastal communities. A range of capacity issues that were common across all countries were also defined. These included availability of key data sets, data storage, access and management. Another important theme was capability building, including the need to develop training programmes with opportunities to be seconded to regional and UK based institutions, UK experts to work for extended periods alongside local departments and engaging in university programmes.

The final workshop summary document will provide greater detail on all of the priorities, capability needs and recommendations identified at the workshop. This document will also cross reference some of the broad requirements identified by stakeholders with the specific capabilities of the UK CME partners, and will be used to direct further scoping work to be carried out by the technical agencies. The overriding themes of the workshop will help CME partners to develop these leads in consultation with Commonwealth SIDS and regional organisations, and will help to shape future project proposals and the use of CME Programme resources.

Similar to the CME activities in the Pacific and Indian Ocean, relevant regional bodies will be consulted when developing these projects to ensure the CME partnership avoids duplication and provides value-added expertise in keeping with regional priorities. The mechanisms for resourcing these projects, and an implementation strategy that will ensure they have a lasting legacy in the Caribbean, will be published by the end of the first phase of the programme (March 2017).

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Annex 1 – Caribbean Workshop Attendees List

NAME	ORGANISATION	COUNTRY
Kemron Beache	Svg Marad	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Ashton Berry	University of Seychelles	Seychelles
Patrick Brown	Ministry of Defence	Jamaica
Paul Buckley	Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science	Programme Partner, UK
Dayne Buddo	University of the West Indies	Jamaica
Christopher Corbin	United Nations Environment Programme – Caribbean Environment Programme	Jamaica
Felicia Cruz	Belize Fisheries Department	Belize
Altoria Davis	Overseas FCO for Jamaica	Jamaica
Michelle Edwards	Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM)	Jamaica
Alan Evans	National Oceanography Centre	Programme Partner, UK
David Fitton	British High Commission	Jamaica
Dwight Gardiner	Antigua and Barbuda Department of Marine Services & Merchant Shipping (ADOMS)	Antigua and Barbuda
Gregg Gayle	Jamaica Information Service News	Jamaica
Marcia Gilbert- Roberts	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade	Jamaica
Deon Henry	SVG Coast Guard Service	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Angela Hibbert	National Oceanography Centre	Programme Partner, UK
Kevin Horsburgh	National Oceanography Centre	Programme Partner, UK
Sydney Innis	Port Authority of Jamaica	Jamaica

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NAME	ORGANISATION	COUNTRY
Cametha John	Internation Airport Development Company Ltd.	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Andre Joyeux	Saint Lucia Meteorological Services	Saint Lucia
Steve Kaiser	Kaiser Green Energy	Jamaica
Oral Khan	Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation	Jamaica
Mark Kirby	Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science	Programme Partner, UK
Gilbert A. Kong	Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries (MICAF)	Jamaica
Tricia Lovell	Fisheries Division Antigua and Barbuda	Antigua and Barbuda
Karen McDonald Gayle	Caribbean Biodiversity Fund	Jamaica
Ed McManus	Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science	Programme Partner, UK
Maxine Monsanto	Department for Environment	Belize
Peter A. Murray	Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism	Belize
David Parker	UK Hydrographic Office	Programme Partner, UK
Christopher Pearce	National Oceanography Centre	Programme Partner, UK
Edmund Peeler	Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science	Programme Partner, UK
David Righton	Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science	Programme Partner, UK
Denzil Roberts	Fisheries Department, Ministry of Agriculture	Guyana
Derick Rodgers	Media Plus Intl	Jamaica
Riviere Sebastien	Fisheries Division	Jamaica
John Simion	Disaster Solutions LLC	United States of America

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NAME	ORGANISATION	COUNTRY
Kenroy Simmons	ADOMS Antigua and Barbuda	Antigua and Barbuda
Amrikha Singh	CARICOM Secretariat	Guyana
Samara South	British High Commission	Jamaica
Melroy Sterling	Jamaica Information Service News	Jamaica
Donnette Streete	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Guyana
Calvin Thompson	National Land Agency	Jamaica
Koen Vanstaen	Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science	Programme Partner, UK
Mona Webber	University of The West Indies	Jamaica
Maxine Welsh	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH	Grenada
Glaston White	Jamaica Fishermen's Co-operative-Union	Jamaica
Paul Wright	Fisheries Division	Jamaica
Arlene Young	Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute	Belize

Annex 2: Link to copies of the presentations.

- 1 CME Caribbean World Bank
- 2 CME Caribbean Introduction
- 3 CME Caribbean CARICOM
- 4 CME Caribbean CRFM
- 5 CME Blue Economy feedback
- 6 CME Blue Economy Cefas intro
- 7 CME Blue Economy NOC intro
- 8 CME Blue Economy UKHO intro
- 9 CME Caribbean Seychelles Blue Economy Story
- 10 CME Caribbean UN Environment Programme
- 11 CME Caribbean Biodiversity Fund

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