« Monitoring the state of reefs to better manage them »

Progress on the GCRMN-Caribbean

7-9 December 2017 – 32nd ICRI General Meeting,
Nairobi, Kenya

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Regional Activity Centre for the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW-RAC) to the Cartagena Convention
The Cartagena Convention
And
The SPAW protocol
Cartagena Convention

- Only legally binding, regional agreement for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region – over 30 years of implementation

- Mission: "To promote regional co-operation for the protection and development of the Wider Caribbean Region"

- Objective: “To achieve sustainable development of marine and coastal resources in the Wider Caribbean Region through effective, integrated management that allows for economic growth and sustainable livelihoods”

- The three Protocols to the Convention:

  **Pollution from Oil Spills**

  **Specially Protected Areas & Wildlife (SPAW)**
  Adopted in 1990
  Entered into force in 2000 - 16 Parties

  **Land Based Sources and Activities of Marine Pollution**
  Adopted in 1999
  Entered into force in 2010 - 13 Parties
Key areas of work within The SPAW Protocol

Creation and strengthening of Marine Protected Areas
CaMPAM Network and Forum for more than 20 years

Preservation of threatened species
Marine Mammals, Sea turtles, Migratory Birds, Fisheries, etc.

Elaboration of guidelines for MPA and species
SPAW Protocol for listing of MPAs and Species under Annexes

Preservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal ecosystems
Coral reefs, mangroves, sea grass bed, Invasive Species

REGIONAL COOPERATION
The GCRMN-Caribbean
The Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network for the Caribbean node (GCRMN-Caribbean)

- Open and growing network of coral reef scientists and managers involved with coral reef monitoring in the Wider Caribbean region
- GCRMN-Caribbean node was revitalized in 2014
- Coordinated by the UN Environment-CEP and its Regional Activity Center SPAW-RAC
- Led by a Steering Committee composed of fifteen regional experts and assisted by Members-at-large, regionally balanced
- Currently more than 100 Members sharing experiences, information and knowledge
The GCRMN-Caribbean platform

A tool to exchange information, materials, and documents for discussions on coral reef monitoring and related topics, in the Wider Caribbean region.

JOIN US!
On our discussion forum

This platform of exchange between coral reef experts and monitoring actors allows to share experiences, ask for advice, share and store relevant documents, illustrations...

To join the forum contact: sophie.mjati.carspaw@guadeloupe-parcnational.fr
The objective is to ensure the collection of useful, comparable and accessible data that can effectively reveal the status and trends of the coral reefs in the region, for regular, robust and strategic reporting to influence coastal management decision-making at the regional and national levels.

Goal: update on Status and trends of Caribbean Coral Reefs in 2020
GCRMN-Caribbean achievements

- Establishment of regional guidelines on integrated Socio Economic & Biophysical Monitoring

- Support and coordination of integrated capacity building training workshops to promote the implementation of regional guidelines in the field

April 2016, Workshop in Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory, The University of the West Indies, Jamaica
- training of 25 practitioners from 7 Member States / territories

October 2017, Workshop in Port Royal Marine Laboratory, The University of the West Indies, Jamaica
- training of 16 Cuban and Jamaican participants

→ GCRMN-Caribbean guidelines are implemented in more than 55 sites
GCRMN-Caribbean next steps

• Continue to promote harmonized data collection through the implementation of the regional guidelines in additional sites and new Member States / territories

• Work on the standardization of data analysis and reporting within the region (2018)
  • standardized data collection modes, reference data, regional analytics
  • common data sharing policy

• Contribute to the International Year of the Reef actively contributing to UN Environment global activities, including the convening of a coral reef technical session during the 71th Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Initiative Annual Conference, in Colombia, 2018.

• Continue liaison and collaboration with other regional and global partners and organisations such as Coral Restoration Consortium (as member of the Steering Committee), ICRI, GCRMN, etc.
For more information on GCRMN-Caribbean, please:
Visit the SPAW-RAC website:
http://www.car-spaw-rac.org/?lang=en
Read our Member report to ICRI:
UN Environment - CEP/SPAW-RAC Member report

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