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**IMPLEMENTING THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY  
PROGRAMME OF WORK ON PROTECTED AREAS IN THE CARIBBEAN**

Venue: Crowne Plaza Miami Airport Hotel; Miami, Florida (USA)  
Dates: June 20-22, 2006



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**Country break out groups to integrate Master Planning Processes: BVI**

**Questions to be addressed:**

- What have you done and what are your plans for doing a comprehensive system-wide assessment for PAME?
- What specific barriers do you have and what do you need to get this done?
- Based on where you are now, how will you integrate the pillars of PA system master planning?

**What have you done and what are your plans for doing a comprehensive system-wide assessment for PAME?**

**Ecological Gap Assessment**

**Marine components:** assessment is mostly completed.

**Terrestrial components:** some groundtruthing and further refinement is required. Components on Anegada and Virgin Gorda have been completed in terms of assessment. Seabird rookeries must be included within the System Plan for the terrestrial components. There may be a need to assess targets for conservation (biological/ecological assessments) through TNC's processes. Salt ponds and mangroves must be revisited so that they may be locked into Marxan exercises leading to system plan formulation. Need to have areas revisited to assess what may be under protection through Physical Planning Act. There is a need to complete terrestrial (salt ponds and mangroves) gap assessment with a view to integrating the marine gap assessment that took place. Additionally, upland forests must be better studied along with other terrestrial targets. The goal is to integrate 10-12% of the terrestrial landmass of the Territory under protection from a current coverage of <2%.

CFD's FPAs (Protected and Priority) can be revisited for completeness and may be integrated into national system planning processes already taking place. Work which has taken place under the Physical Planning Act and its assessment for the management of wetlands (coastal zone) will also need to be integrated.

**Financial Assessment**

Still needs to be completed for both the Trust and Conservation & Fisheries Department. Assess the contribution to the economy of bird watching exercises that may take place on an annual basis. Other ecologically based activities must be quantified in terms of their contribution to GDP.

**Capacity Assessment**

An assessment must be performed for both departments. Some work is being conducted through the restructuring taking place within the Conservation & Fisheries Department.

## **What specific barriers do you have and what do you need to get this done?**

### **Marine Gap Assessment**

The work has been completed and has led to the formulation of a concrete network of MPA

### **Terrestrial Gap Assessment**

1. Time limitation
2. Technical assistance may be required through the integration of partners who have undertaken work along ecological characterization
3. Following an assessment of data sets, there can be a better of what the gaps in information may be for incorporation into system planning process
  - a. Bird information
  - b. Plant information
4. Financial constraints for implementation of assessment work
5. Organizing meetings during the consultative phase of key targets, leading to mapping and possible boundary determination of areas.
6. Further consultation with institutional collaborators will be required.
7. A mid-August internal departmental meeting can be arranged to assess the current state of affairs with respect to the information gaps which can be convened by the Ministry of Natural Resources & Labour. The meeting will assess the contribution of various departments to the formulation towards the system plan and to integrate such under one umbrella. The meeting will require a coordinator who will conduct such integration. All of the information required will need to be mapped prior to any general meeting on the extent of the PA.

### **Based on where you are now, how will you integrate the pillars of PA system master planning?**

1. In the long-term there is a need to complete an analysis of the capacity, management effectiveness and financial issues for a 5-year period.
2. There is a need to assess the human capacity to manage the PA programme. This includes the collaboration of other departments such as enforcement agencies. Additionally, mechanisms for co-management must be worked out with sister islands.