GEF-IWCAM Project
Data and Information Management

Expert Consultation on Operationalisation of the Caribbean Sea Commission
UWI, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados, 7 – 9 July 2010

GEF-IWCAM Project Background






Project Objective

To assist Caribbean Small Island Developing States to adopt an integrated approach to watershed and coastal area management.

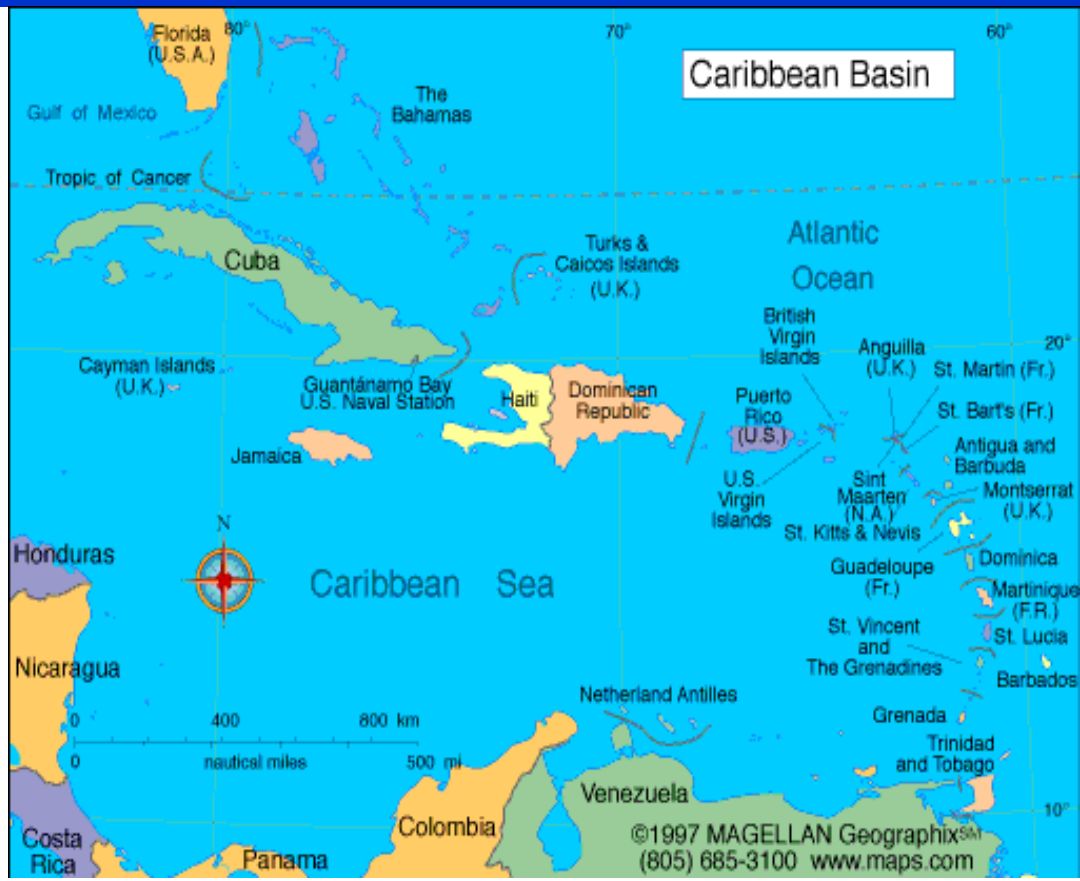
Length of Project: 5 years (2006 – 2011)

GEF-IWCAM Participating Countries






- Antigua/Barbuda
- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Cuba
- Dominica
- Dominican Republic
- Grenada
- Haiti
- Jamaica
- St. Lucia
- St. Kitts/Nevis
- St. Vincent & the Grenadines
- Trinidad & Tobago

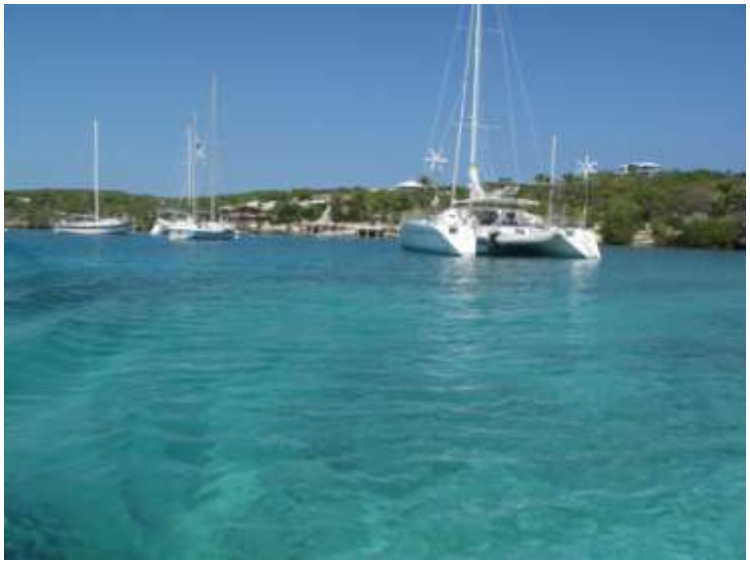
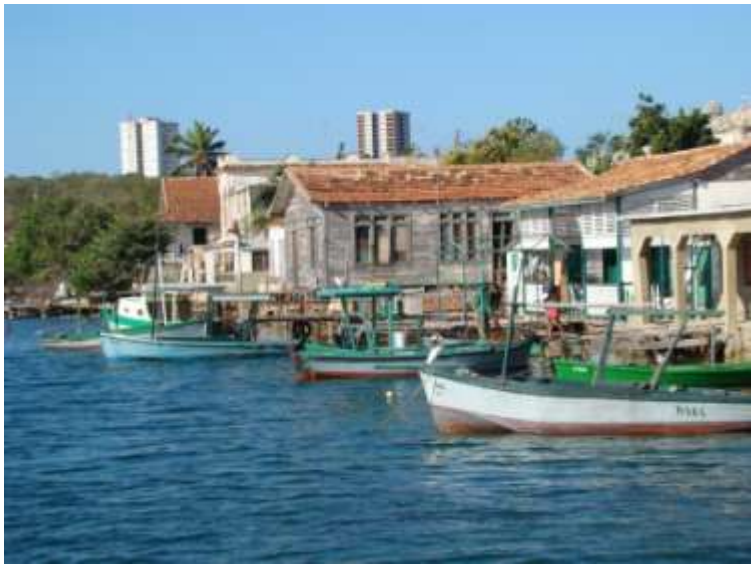










GEF-IWCAM Components






1. Demonstration, Capture and Transfer of Best Practices
2. Development of IWCAM Processes, Stress Reduction and Environmental Status Indicators Framework
3. Policy, Legislative and Institutional Reform for IWCAM
4. Regional and National Capacity Building and Sustainability for IWCAM
5. Project Management and Coordination

GEF-IWCAM Project Communications Approach



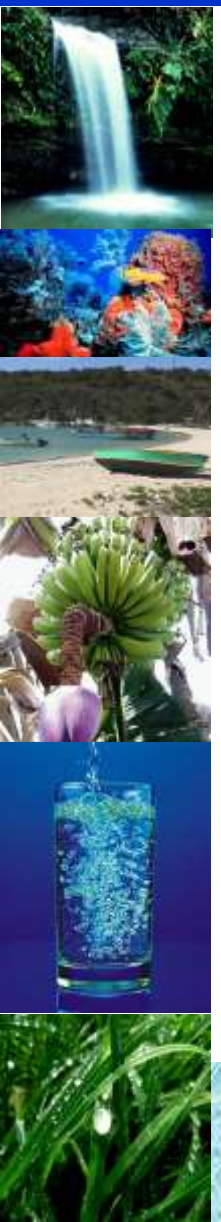



1. Public Relations and Awareness Raising

2. Social-Marketing – Behaviour Modification Campaigns

3. Documentation and Communicating Lessons Learned and Best Practice

GEF-IWCAM Indicators

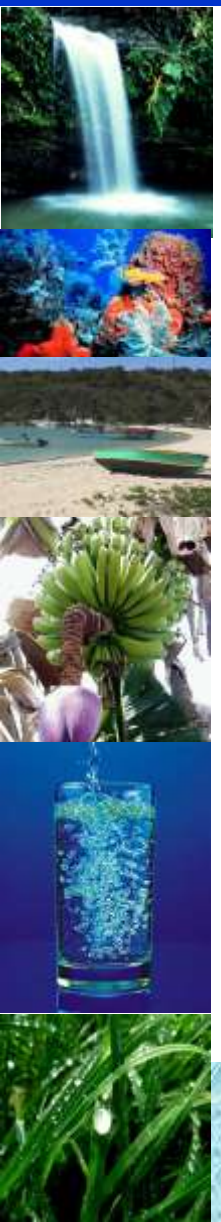


Objectives

- To assess indicators mechanisms and capacity in participating countries to utilize and monitor indicators for the IWCAM approach

- To develop an indicators template based on GEF International Waters Indicators (Process, Stress Reduction and Environmental Status Indicators).

GEF-IWCAM Indicators



1) Capacity Assessment

Looked at existing capacities, systemic and institutional capacities, human resources, data and information, technology and financial resources.

2) Development of an Indicators Template

No standard list of indicators applies to all countries. Each country was asked to select a list of indicators for use in their respective IWCAM programmes.

Short-term recommendations re. Indicators



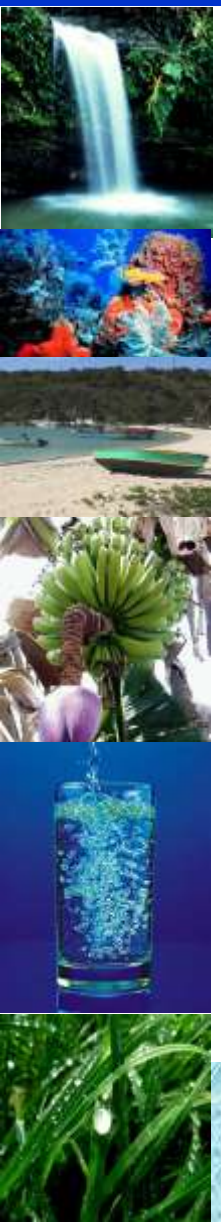



- Countries should identify a suite of basic, priority IWCAM indicators that address national needs and priorities

- A minimum environmental monitoring system and required capacity for using such indicators should be evaluated and cost determined. Existing data should be used as a baseline for the monitoring programme.

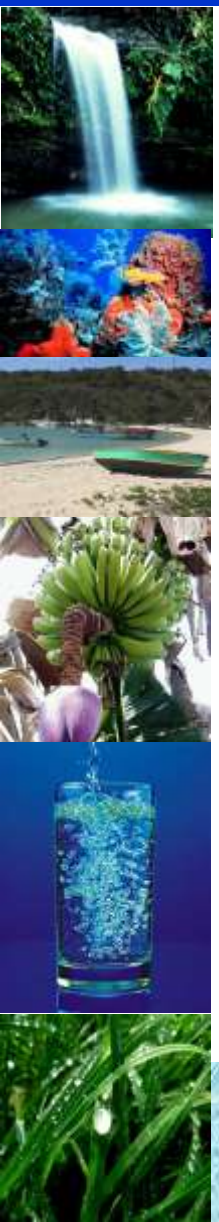
- A set of core indicators should be selected and tested in pilot studies in one of PCs with more advanced indicators initiatives and capacity , and lessons disseminated to other PCs.

Indicators Pilot Activity – Barbados – Expected outputs



- A fully functioning database of data & information on key terrestrial & hydrological variables (land, water & near-shore environment)
- A functioning data exchange network
- Guidelines for data collection of key terrestrial and hydrological data to ensure data quality
- Increased capability in database management & water resources information system management.

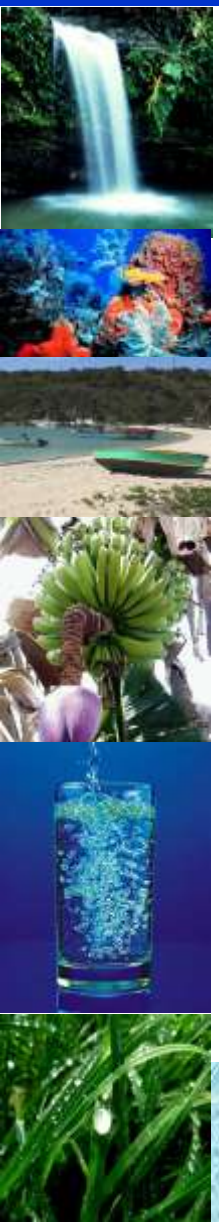
Demonstration Projects – Collection of Data



- Range of data collected (water quality, soil, wastewater disposal practices, assessments of natural resources, hydrogeological data, stream flow, etc.)

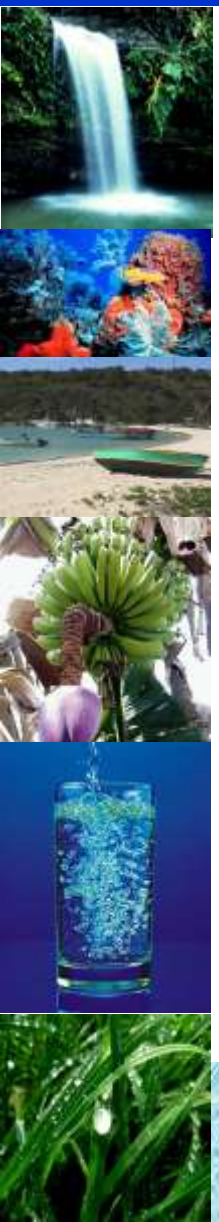
- Collected by project staff, consultants, community volunteers and students

Demonstration Projects – Archiving / Fate of Data



- Initially stored in project management units (hard and soft copy)
- Submitted to relevant government depts./state agency partners once analysis is completed
- Archived and linked to government information systems after one year (Jamaica)
- Geographic Information Systems used by Cuba, Trinidad & Tobago, St. Lucia and Andros, Bahamas

Documenting Lessons Learned & Good Practices

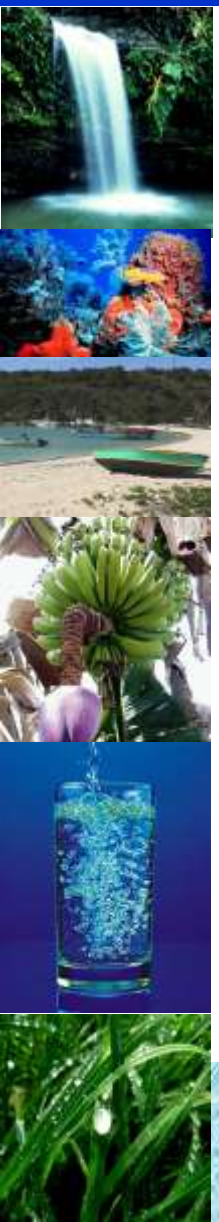


Project is using:

- Case Studies – long- or short-form
- GEF-International Waters Experience Notes – set format

*Process of **identifying, assessing** (using the triple bottom line approach – social, environmental and economic) and **communicating** (documentary, feature articles etc.)*

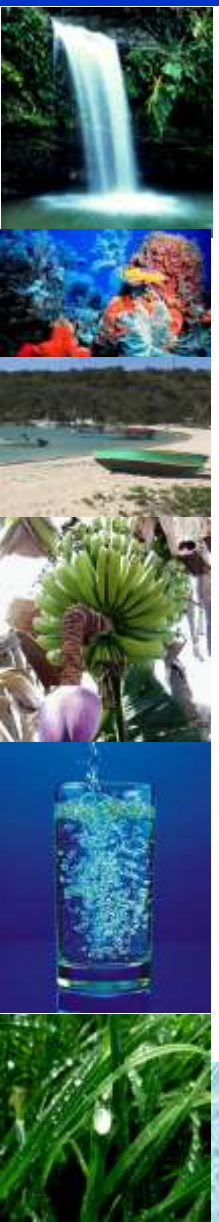
IWCAM Clearing House Mechanism (CHM)



To make outputs of the Project available, including:

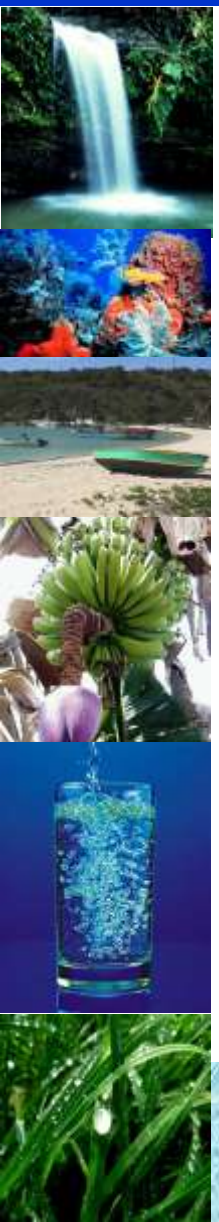
- Publications
- Reports
- Case Studies, Experience Notes
- Public education & outreach materials
- Databases
- Toolkits and templates
- Community Based Resource Assessment
- Maps and GIS resources
- Photographs and Video

Developing the CHM



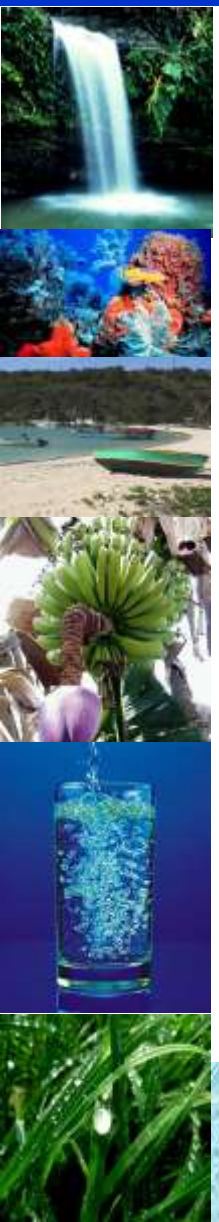
- Needs assessment (CHM needs and existing IT environment at both executing agencies, CEHI and UNEP CAR/RCU)
- Installation of software at UNEP CAR/RCU (managing)
- Adoption, installation and customization of GeoNetwork software

Developing the CHM (cont'd)



- Importation of data and integration with existing Plone GEF-IWCAM website
- Training in use and maintenance / site support (local and remote) of the system; in GeoNetwork and metadata to populate CHM
- On-going hosting & maintenance by UNEP CAR/RCU.

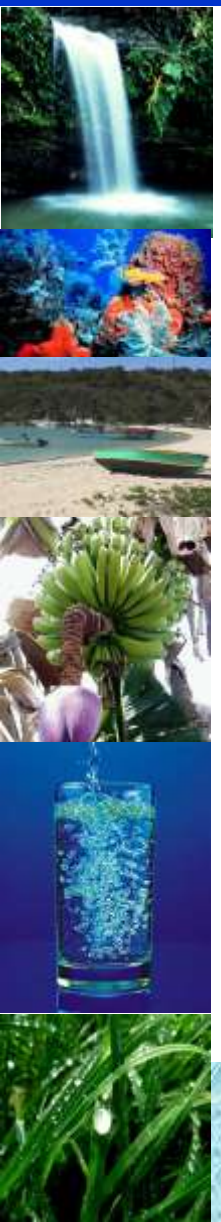
IWCAM Project Lessons Learned in Data & Information Management



- Projects have no time to lose – the earlier communications, information and data management strategy and systems are put in place, the better.

- Metadata is neglected; while all demo projects are geo-referencing data and keeping some metadata, an agreed set of metadata is needed.

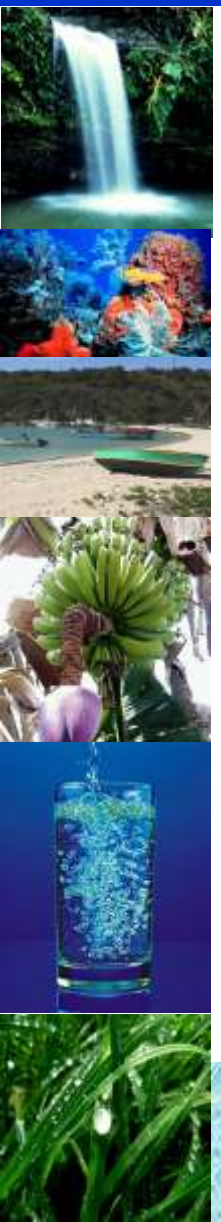
IWCAM Lessons Learned in Data & Information Management



- Collection of data by demos must be adequately resourced (equipment, transport, trained personnel etc.) The use of volunteer community members can be a cost-efficient approach for some (not all) monitoring but training and supervision is needed to ensure quality data.

- High cost of sample analysis has been a limiting factor in the context of the project but also has implications for the sustainability of monitoring – lab-strengthening component of the project sought to address this.

GEF-IWCAM Project Lessons Learned – Data & Information Management



- Demos which are well integrated into existing government agencies seem to be more likely to have data management systems which ensure that data is, or will be, archived and linked with existing, wider databases.

- Many barriers exist to the sharing of: data, existing knowledge, and, existing capacity. The Project website and the IWCAM Clearing House Mechanism will have to be updated and promoted to be successful.

Lessons Learned - Mainstreaming IWCAM






- In the most “successful” demos, data and results of analysis were used to inform project activities and build public awareness during project life.
- More time and resources should be programmed for the creation of information products and target group response should be evaluated.
- There should be a strategy for the development of systems / mechanisms for dissemination of data and info into decision-making, supported by appropriate systems-making.

It's about reaching people!

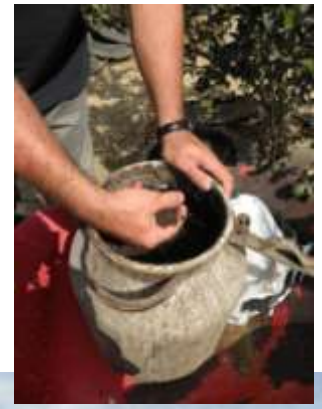


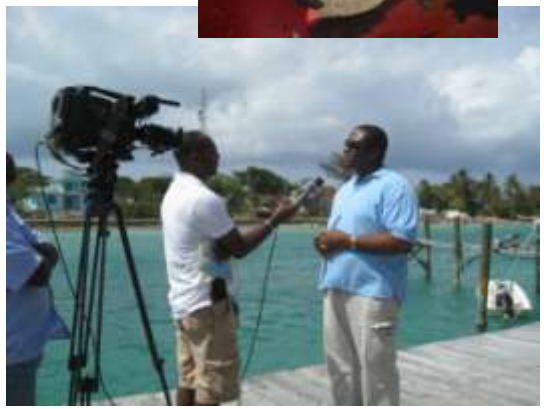




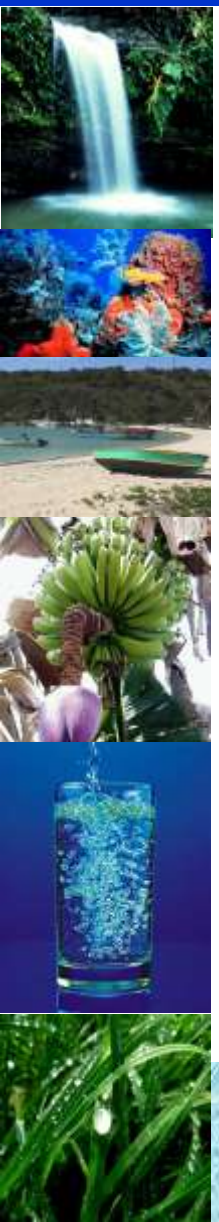






THANK YOU!



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