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Welcome!

Welcome to **Protect-Ed**, the newsletter that shares information on activities in forest and protected area management in Trinidad and Tobago.

Protect-Ed will report on progress made in the development of a Protected Area System, initially through the four year project "Improving Forest and Protected Area Management in Trinidad and Tobago" and subsequently through the work done by various stakeholders in sustaining this system.

In this inaugural issue, we do a brief introduction to the sites of six pilot protected areas that are the focus of the four year project. Learn about the stakeholder teams that are actively sharing and gathering information on these sites to advise on management plans.

After reading **Protect-Ed**, be sure to give your views on this first issue. Our contact information is provided on the back cover. Enjoy reading **Protect-Ed** and join us in the thrust to improve management of our protected areas!



Protect-Ed is the biannual newsletter of the GEF-funded project "Improving Forest and Protected Area Management in Trinidad and Tobago". (GCP/TRI/003/GFF).

Protect-Ed reports on progress made in the development of a new protected areas system through the activities of five stakeholder committees in six pilot protected area sites in Trinidad and Tobago.

Protect-Ed is produced by the Project Coordination Unit.

Catalysing change in the practice of conservation in Trinidad and Tobago

Piloting for Improvement

New National Protected Areas and Forest Policies adopted in 2011 and a new National Wildlife Policy adopted in 2013 signalled the start of Government policy reforms aimed at preventing biodiversity loss and improving the management of protected areas (PAs). In line with these activities, the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (GORTT) requested financial support from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) through the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to design and implement the four year project - *Improving Forest and Protected Area Management in Trinidad and Tobago*.

This project will contribute to developing a new system of protected areas, developing and testing new financial mechanisms needed to support protected areas, piloting management arrangements in pilot protected areas towards enhanced effectiveness and building the skills and expertise of staff with responsibility to manage protected areas in Trinidad and Tobago.

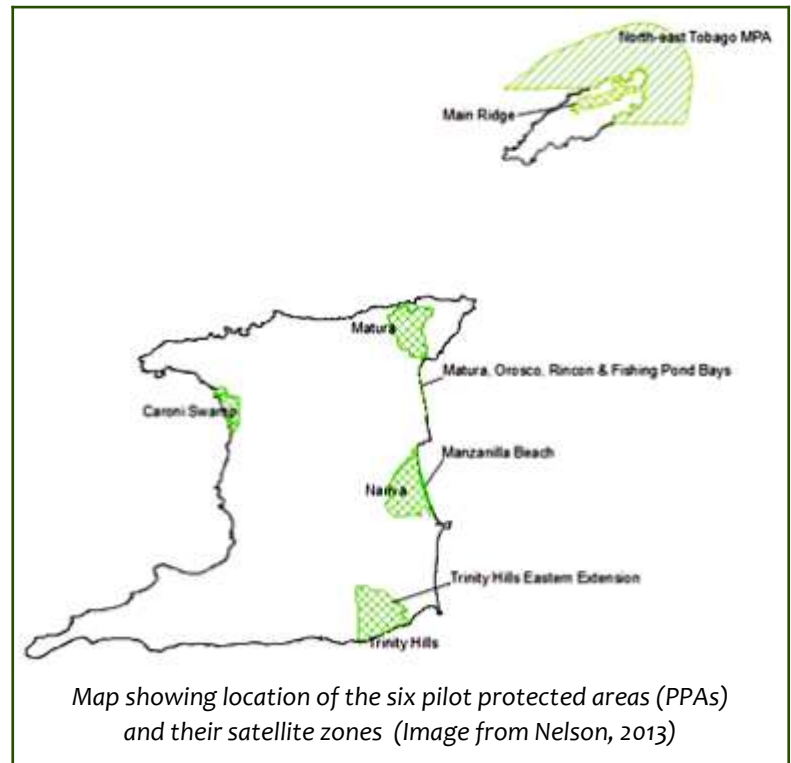
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The project is focussed on six pilot protected areas, which were chosen because they are representative of the management issues in Trinidad and Tobago and have globally important biodiversity and ecosystems.

The six PAs are located at the Caroni Swamp, Nariva Swamp (and coastal zone), the Matura Forest (and coastal zone), the Trinity Hills (and eastern extension), the Main Ridge Forest Reserve and lastly, the North-East Tobago Marine Protected Area.

The project essentially attempts to catalyse a change in the practice of forest and protected area management through the creation and piloting of improved management mechanisms.



Multiple challenges to be addressed

An estimated 60% of the land area of Trinidad and Tobago (TT) is under forest cover. Managing biodiversity therein to provide national and global benefits to human societies is therefore relevant to TT where their sustainable supply is under constant threat. Even though forests in TT have been formally reserved since 1776, apart from their declaration as protected areas under multiple laws, efforts to manage biodiversity remains disjointed and ineffective.

Similarly, multiple pressures from diverse stakeholders and rapid economic growth have put pressure on forests and other natural areas which pose risks to biodiversity conservation. The current approved institutional and legal framework is therefore insufficient to address the challenges of biodiversity conservation. Loss of habitats and conflicting interests of various stakeholders have led to a decline in wildlife populations in many natural areas, threatening the existence of many globally and nationally important species in both terrestrial and marine ecosystems.

Selected strategies

Some key strategies have been selected to contribute to realising improved management of forest and protected areas in the project. These include: piloting mechanisms to build acceptance and use of participatory management of protected areas and forest; action learning to improve specialist knowledge and skills in protected area management and; targeted dissemination of best practices and lessons learned to key change agents.

Participatory management of forest and protected areas is not uncommon to Trinidad and Tobago and has been adopted in various methodologies, inclusive of formal and informal agreements. The activities under this project seek to build on the best practices and lessons learned from these experiences. The project engages with over 60 organizations via five Subcommittees, comprising of key stakeholders for each of the six pilot sites, to guide on implementation of activities under the project.

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The project has also hosted field visits to the six sites, meeting with local residents and a round table discussion with selected managers at one site to share perspectives on the location of boundaries, levels of protection and strategies to improve management.

Data gathering to inform evidence based management has also incorporated participatory approaches. An ecological baseline survey is being implemented with local scientists accompanied by local community experts to produce an inventory for the sites and a protocol for monitoring.

Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) surveys, to inform more effective communication with stakeholders in each pilot protected area are being administered with the support of management authorities and local stakeholders.

Enhancing knowledge and skills

A significant portion of project funds is allocated to building the knowledge, skills and expertise of stakeholders in managing forest and protected areas. Action learning, a methodology which essentially involves doing while learning, is being employed to build capacity in areas such as participatory planning and management of protected areas and communication.

To date, the outputs from specific activities include the work plans of the Subcommittees, *Information Briefs* drafted to assist in analysing management issues and a network of media personnel, the latter formed with the objective of promoting key messages to improve forest and protected area management.

Important role of key change agents

This project contains no major innovations, but is designed to catalyse change in the operational management of forest and protected areas. By documenting and disseminating lessons learned and best practices in the national context to key change agents in a format that is conducive to quick uptake and implementation, such catalysis is possible. The main constraints however are the medium/pathways used as well as the willingness of the key change agents. The selection of pathways is therefore being informed by evidence collected via surveys and monitoring and evaluation of the effect of planned activities.

Efforts to improve the willingness of key change agents to embrace the change in the approach to forest and protected area management is therefore an ongoing activity of the project and are characterised by regular face-to-face meetings which include discussions to highlight complimentary objectives in programmes of work. Incremental changes are being realised, but significant changes and the formal approaches are also desired and are visible on the horizon.



Caroni Swamp Pilot Protected Area
Subcommittee members on field trip with
Lead Technical Officer, Dr. Claus Eckelmann



Representatives from state agencies and NGOs
take part in a communication workshop to
improve reporting on forest and protected areas



SITE AND TEAM PROFILES

The nature of Nariva

The proposed Nariva swamp pilot protected area is the largest freshwater wetland in the Caribbean. It includes all state lands within the boundaries of the existing Nariva Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA), amounting to 11,343 ha, as well as a satellite area consisting of the beach-front from the low tide to high tide marks, consisting of 70 ha along the Manzanilla Beach, from the northern to southern boundary of the ESA on the Atlantic coast. The site includes the Nariva Swamp Prohibited Area, Bush Bush Wildlife Sanctuary and part of the Nariva Windbelt Reserve.

The Subcommittee for this site decided to become familiar with the area and take a look at what is the current situation within and around the proposed boundaries. As such, the team undertook two field trips to the area, first a trek to Brigand Hill, a good vantage point for looking over the site's wide expanse and observing areas formerly under rice cultivation. On the second trip, the group explored the coast and learnt of the activities of some environmental groups active in the area and gathered information on farming in the Kernahan area. They also ventured into the Bush Bush Wildlife Sanctuary.

One of the emerging issues for the site concerned whether farms can exist within protected areas. The Nariva area currently supports a large community of farmers. Agricultural activity in the swamp area was a source of conflict in the past, due to the large degree of land alteration which occurred and impacted on its hydrology and ecology. The current situation at Nariva is characterized by a high incidence of agricultural squatting, use of potent pesticide cocktails and a threat of encroachment into the environmentally sensitive area.

In order to make informed management decisions about this pilot site, the on-the-ground information gathering is a useful strategy, and it is being matched by desk research as well. An information brief which researches experiences of farming in protected areas in other regions, and possible management arrangements for Nariva is currently being prepared. We hope to share more on this in the next issue of Protect-Ed.



Top photo: Large buttress roots are prominent features of Fig trees found at the Bush Bush Wildlife Sanctuary.

Bottom photo: Farming activities near the iconic palms found at the Nariva Swamp area

The team of stakeholders engaged at the [Nariva Swamp and Coastal Zone](#) is comprised of the following:

Forestry Division | Biche Volunteer Action Group | Caribbean Natural Resources Institute | Environmental Management Authority | Institute of Marine Affairs | Manatee Conservation Trust | Mayaro-Rio Claro Regional Corporation | Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries | Ministry of Tourism | Plum Mitan Central Environmental Group | Sangre Grande Regional Corporation | T&T Field Naturalists' Club | T&T Incoming Tour Operators Association | UWI Department of Life Sciences | Villagers Organized in Conserving the Environment.

Mapping Matura

The proposed Matura protected area and its satellite protected area are located at the north-eastern quadrant of Trinidad, and includes the 9000 ha. of the existing Matura Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA), and the seasonally -prohibited coastal beaches of Rincon, Matura and Fishing Pond (approximately 39 ha.) where marine turtles come annually to lay their eggs.

Led by the Environmental Management Authority (EMA), a Participatory 3-Dimensional Model (P3DM) of the Matura ESA project was conducted at The AgroTourism Centre, Cumana Village, Toco in early July. The activity was in support of the Authority's Education and Outreach Programme in the ESA, and was geared towards promoting the use of public participation in the management of sensitive areas, building public knowledge and understanding of the value of the ESA, documenting existing threats to the site and gathering information that will advise on the best way forward on addressing environmental concerns and inform a communication strategy for the ESA.

This activity fits well into the IFPAM project and the IFPAM team therefore provided support to the project in assisting with the training of facilitators for the activity and actual facilitation throughout the model-building process.

Both Government and community stakeholders participated in the population exercise, the former, tending to locate the information on the model using maps while the latter recalled information from orienting themselves with the location of landmarks on the model.

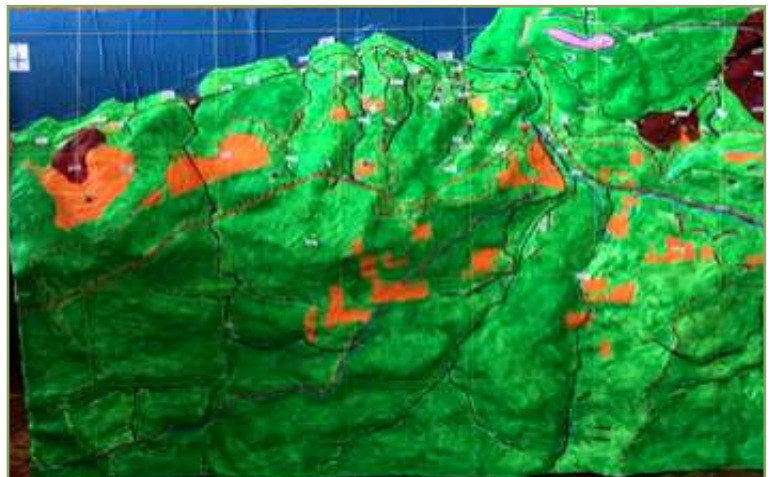
The coinciding of both types of stakeholders on populating days presented an interesting aspect of the exercise, with the exchanges among informants. These exchanges often led to negotiations and discussion of mental maps before placement of key information on the model.

To many non-community members, the exercise also became akin to a social studies "know your country tour", with the revelation of place names and features that are not commonly known outside of the community. The exercise encouraged participants to develop a sense of ownership for the natural resources of the region and the model itself.

The model is currently housed at the Sangre Grande Regional Corporation where it will be rotated amongst various community stakeholders who may be desirous of utilizing the model as a tool for all levels of education and expertise.

The stakeholder team for the **Matura Forest and Coastal Zone** pilot protected area is:

Forestry Division | Caribbean Natural Resources Institute | Environmental Management Authority | Grande Riviere Nature Tour Guides Association | Institute of Marine Affairs | Ministry of Tourism | Nature Seekers | Sangre Grande Regional Corporation | Toco Foundation | Turtle Village Trust.



The Matura ESA is the first of the Pilot Protected Areas to have a Participatory 3-Dimensional Model (P3DM) built. The model maps the natural assets and environmental challenges at the site.

The Main Ridge ...

The proposed Main Ridge Forest Reserve pilot protected area comprising 3,937 ha is currently designated the Main Ridge Forest Reserve and represents the oldest forest reserve in the western hemisphere, having been set aside in 1776.

The volcanically influenced Main Ridge Forest Reserve extends from the northeast of the island southwesterly for approximately seventeen kilometers. There is a maximum altitude of 549 m near the midpoint of the ridge. The Main Ridge comprises of forested ridges from the North coast to, gentler slopes with deep valleys which run down to a narrow fertile coastal plain in the South.

... and a Marine Protected Area

The proposed pilot North-East Tobago Marine Protected Area (MPA) covers an estimated 59,280 ha, extending along the entire coastal strip from Roxborough on the north-east coast, north to Parlatuvier on the north-west coast and extending seawards for 6 nautical miles (11.1 km).

The proposed MPA encompasses several large coral reef formations, Little Tobago Island, Goat Island, St. Giles Islands and numerous Rocks, such as the Sisters and Brothers Rocks. Bays that are within the MPA include King's Bay, Tyrrel's Bay, Man-of-War Bay and Bloody Bay.



Tobago's Main Ridge is popular for eco-tours among tourists and locals.



Fishing is a popular livelihood activity in the NE Marine area of Tobago

The special need of Tobago: Formulating a vision for protected area management for Tobago

"For the purpose of attracting frequent showers of rain upon which the fertility of lands in these climates doth entirely depend" is the phrase most frequently quoted from the ordinance declaring the Main Forest Reserve in Tobago on April 13th, 1776. It highlights the importance of the preservation of the forest for the provision of water. However, few of us consider the other events in history that dictate a vision for protected area management for Tobago as a distinct one from Trinidad. These include the origin of the descendants of Tobago, the legal and institutional framework for environmental management on the island and the main economic drivers on the island.

History tells us that the majority of local residents of Tobago are descendants of the West African Yoruba and Ibo tribes. The beliefs and traditions of these tribes evolved around observations and interactions with the environment. This relationship with the environment has contributed to the evolved conservation ethic of the island where harvesting of timber from the rainforest is understood to be wrong, and hacking of trees on the coast, the Claude Noel highway, or the clear cutting of lands fuel outbursts on morning radio shows.

Act 39 of 1996 amended the constitution of Trinidad and Tobago, laying the legal foundation for the establishment of the Tobago House of Assembly under Act 40 of 1996. Under Act 40, the Tobago House of Assembly is given the

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responsibility for the management of 16 areas, one of which is the environment. The National Forest Policy and National Protected Area Policy of 2011 make accommodation for this movement of the authority for the management of the environment from the central government to the Tobago House of Assembly.

Tourism is the main economic driver on the island and the practice of conservation and forest management on the island has evolved differently from Trinidad in which a greater focus was paid to timber production. There are various informal arrangements among managers and resource users of the Main Ridge Forest Reserve based on long, established, personal relationships.

Given this context, the present global recession and impact of climate variability on the island, there is a need to develop a vision for forest and protected areas that takes into consideration the history of the island as well as perceived and likely context for the management of forest and protected areas in the future. Representatives of 18 organizations have come together under the project to guide the formulation of this vision.

Many other residents have shared their views on strategies to improve management in surveys (of people's knowledge, attitudes and practices) conducted in August and September on the island and others are currently accompanying local scientists on an inventory of floral and fauna species at the pilot sites to inform decision-making. Whatever the agreed wording turns out to be, we can be assured that vision will contribute to the island's slogan: "Clean, green safe and serene."

Both pilot protected area sites in Tobago are being looked at by a large team of diverse stakeholders; they are:

Tobago House of Assembly (THA) Departments of Natural Resources and the Environment and Marine Resources and Fisheries | Castara Tourism and Development Association | Charlotteville Fresh Sea Fish Association | Environment Tobago | Environmental Management Authority | Environmental Research Institute Charlotteville | Institute of Marine Affairs | L'Anse Fourmi Village Council | North East Sea Turtles | THA Division of Finance and Enterprise Development | THA Department of Land Management | Town and Country Planning Division | University of the Southern Caribbean | The University of the West Indies | Wildlife Farmers' Association.



The coastal village of Parlatuvier which lies within the proposed North East Tobago Marine Pilot Protected Area.



Fisherfolk participating in Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP) survey in Tobago to contribute to development of a communication plan for forest and protected areas on the island.

Trinidad's Trinity Hills

The proposed Trinity Hills and eastern extension protected area is approximately 11,525 hectares and available records show that it is entirely the property of the state. This pilot protected area includes all of the area known as the Trinity Hills Wildlife Sanctuary (8,200 ha.) and a portion of the adjacent Victoria-Mayaro Forest Reserve (3,325 ha.).

The Trinity Hills form the eastern part of the Southern Range, so named by first sighting of the island by Columbus, who recognized three hills of the range. The area's historic value is the naming of Trinidad.

This pilot protected area consists of moist tropical forest with the complete mammalian fauna of the island, including ocelots, tamandua anteaters, red howler and white-fronted capuchin monkeys, and all five game mammals – agouti, lappe, armadillo, peccary and the brocket deer.

The Subcommittee conducted a site visit in March 2016 to get a first-hand understanding of what exists in and adjacent to the pilot protected area. Amidst the lush vegetation, numerous hunting camps were visible in the Forest Reserve indicative of extensive hunting activities. Oil and gas infrastructure, such as wells, pipelines and right-of-ways that traverse the area were evident.

The long history of oil and gas activities in the area is in fact the unique feature of this pilot protected area. In 1902 the first well was completed in Guayaguayare (just east of the protected area) and oil was produced at the rate of 100 barrels a day. The Sanctuary was under mining lease to Texaco and Tesoro Oil Companies from 1950. At present, the Petroleum Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (PETROTRIN) manages all oil and gas activities in the protected area under Incremental Production Service Contracts with oil and gas companies.

Given the importance of the energy industry at this site and to the country by extension, the Project Coordination Unit (PCU) prepared a research brief on oil and gas operations in PAs so that international best practices can be considered in improving management of the Trinity Hills pilot protected area.

The Subcommittee further held a roundtable discussion on August 5th, 2016 where expert views were shared on the subject. Several recommendations emerged for consideration regarding the boundaries of the pilot protected area, levels of protection, enforcement and management options. These recommendations are to be deliberated upon by the Subcommittee and other stakeholders towards the formulation of recommendations to improve management.



A base for energy companies as well as lowland forest, Trinity Hills is home to all species of local land mammals found in Trinidad and Tobago



Participants in Roundtable Discussion on oil and gas operations in a protected area, Friday 5th August 2016. A range of management options will now be considered.

Team members of the Trinity Hills and Eastern Extension Subcommittee come from:

Forestry Division | Environmental Management Authority | Mayaro-Rio Claro Regional Corporation | Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries | Petroleum Company of Trinidad and Tobago | South-Eastern Hunters Association | T&T Field Naturalists' Club.

Caroni's birds I view

The proposed pilot Caroni Swamp protected area is approximately 3,258 hectares and includes all the lands formerly designated as the Caroni Swamp Forest Reserve and also encompasses the areas set aside as the Caroni Swamp wildlife sanctuary. The pilot PA is part of the Caroni Swamp system, a main roosting site of one of our national birds, the Scarlet Ibis.

Ask the average citizen what the Swamp is known for and the response may be “viewing the national bird, the Scarlet Ibis”. However, over 157 species of birds have been recorded in the Caroni Swamp and the system also supports subsistence harvesting of fish and shellfish. Tourism activities are supported by the tour operators that carry out educational tours through the swamp, allowing visitors to see the flora and fauna of the swamp system. The swamp is also an important nursery for fish.

The Subcommittee with responsibility for this pilot protected area conducted two tours of the site, by boat and by land. While the Swamp supports several livelihood activities, other facts about the site, listed in the box at right, contribute to the main negative impacts that were observed and which can also negatively impact on the sustainability of these livelihoods.

Salt water intrusion, industrial and agricultural run-off and the altered hydrology of the swamp, in addition to poorly functioning infrastructure (sluice gates - see photo at right) have all impacted on the Swamp's integrity.



What was noted is that the present state of the Swamp is influenced by impacts of activities both within the site and further afield; as such, the team is required to identify innovate ways in which a wider stakeholder group can be engaged to come up with viable management strategies.



The Caroni Swamp supports several livelihood activities including ecotourism, fishing, conch, crab and oyster harvesting in its marshes, mudflats, mangroves and lagoons.

Facts on the Caroni Swamp


- The Caroni River Basin, the hydrometric area that encompasses the Caroni Swamp, covers about 883.4 km², equivalent to 22% of the land surface area of the island (Juman *et al.*, 2002).
- This River Basin is the most populated part of the country (density 0 439 persons km⁻²), housing 33% of the national population (CSO 1995).
- The River Basin contains some of the most fertile land in the country (Brown *et al.*, 1966).
- In addition to saltwater penetration, the Caroni Swamp receives water polluted with sewage, wastewater from industry and agriculture run-off (Phelps, 1997).

Stakeholders represented on the **Caroni Swamp and Coastal Zone Subcommittee** are:

Forestry Division | Caribbean Natural Resources Institute | Environmental Management Authority | Fisheries Division | Institute of Marine Affairs | Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries | Ministry of Tourism | San Juan-Laventille Regional Corporation | T&T Field Naturalists' Club | T&T Incoming Tour Operators' Association.

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Key Words

♻️ ESA: Environmentally Sensitive Area

The designation of an area as environmentally sensitive is to meet one or more of three categories of general objectives:

- (a) conservation of natural resources and protection of the environment;
- (b) sustainable economic and human development;
- (c) logistic support such as environmental education and information sharing.

Presently, there are three ESAs in Trinidad and Tobago; they are: the Aripo Savannas, the Matura National Park and the Nariva Swamp.

♻️ Forest Reserve

Forest Reserves were designated under the Crown Lands Act, which is now the State Lands Act (Chapter 57:01). Forest Reserves were established to manage timber resources by imposing fines, restrictions and the use of permits to regulate extraction of high-grade timber species. Trinidad and Tobago has 36 Forest Reserves.

♻️ PA: Protected Area

Protected areas are important management tools for protecting, conserving and managing natural and built heritage, and are critical to national sustainable development. They vary in intensity of human use from no entry areas in the case of strict nature reserves, to sites that allow for multiple uses in different zones. Protected areas can be terrestrial, coastal, or marine or a combination of these. Protected areas assist in conserving biodiversity, providing ecosystem goods and services, facilitate international cooperation, enable the country to meet international obligations under multilateral environmental agreements, and assist in building resilience to climate change.

♻️ Wildlife Sanctuary

Wildlife or Game Sanctuaries were designated under the Conservation of Wildlife Act (Chapter 67:01). These areas are intended to protect wild animal species by restricting hunting and collection of animals in and from such sanctuaries. There are 13 Wildlife Sanctuaries in Trinidad and Tobago.

Summary of Key Project Activities: January - September 2016

When	What	Who
JANUARY	Project Inception Workshop Report completed Year 1 Report completed Project Steering Committee Meeting The UWI contracted to produce a concept for Ecological Baseline Survey	Project Coordination Unit Project Coordination Unit Project Steering Committee
FEBRUARY	First draft of situational analysis of six pilot protected areas by PCU and Subcommittees completed	PCU and Subcommittees
MARCH	Subcommittee field trip: Block A, Block B, Plum Mitan Subcommittee field trip: Goudron Field, Edwards Trace Subcommittee field trip: boat trip, Caroni Swamp Project Steering Committee Meeting First meeting of Research Working Group of Tobago PPAs First meeting of Communication and Outreach Working Group, Matura Forest PPA	Nariva Swamp PPA SC Trinity Hills PPA SC Caroni Swamp PPA SC Project Steering Committee Main Ridge/NE Marine PPA RWG Matura Forest PPA COWG
APRIL	KAP Survey undertaken in communities near Matura Forest ESA Facilitator Training Exercise for EMA P3DM project	EMA EMA/Project Coordination Unit
MAY	Project Coordination Unit staff up to full complement with hiring of Technical Officer and Project Officer	Project Coordination Unit
JUNE	Subcommittee field trip: Manzanilla, Kernahan Village, Bush Bush Subcommittee field trip: land field trip, Caroni Swamp Project Steering Committee Meeting– First draft of Communication Plan	Nariva Swamp PPA SC Caroni Swamp PPA SC Project Steering Committee
JULY	P3DM Matura ESA model development led by the EMA Subcommittee field trip: Mt. Dillon, Castara, Parlatuvier Training and start of KAP Survey in Tobago	EMA Main Ridge/NE Marine PPA SC Main Ridge/NE Marine PPA SC
AUGUST	Initiation of Baseline Survey (vegetation, herpetofauna, birds, mammals, arthropods, marine area) Roundtable Discussion on oil and gas operations in protected areas Subcommittee field trip: Matura, Vega de Oropouche, Fishing Pond Media Communication Workshop jointly hosted with Nature Seekers Unveiling of Matura ESA P3DM model Discussion on Land Use conflicts in Nariva Swamp PPA	The UWI Life Sciences Dept. with community members' Trinity Hills PPA SC Matura Forest PPA SC Project Coordination Unit EMA Nariva Swamp PPA SC
SEPTEMBER	Project Steering Committee Meeting	Project Steering Committee

Improving Forest and Protected Area Management in Trinidad and Tobago

Protect Ed

Contact us! We'd love to hear from you!

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THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Forest and protected areas and livelihoods go hand in hand...
what happens if forest and protected areas
are not sustainably managed?

PROJECT FUNDERS



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



The back story

It takes 'a village to raise a child' and a nation to do what's right by the environment. The IFPAM project requires the concerted work of several teams to develop an appropriate and feasible system for our forest and protected areas.

Here is an outline of the many teams that are involved in this project:

- Project funding organizations: Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Global Environment Facility, the European Union, Food and Agriculture Organization
- Project partners: Forestry Division, Ministry of Planning, , Tobago House of Assembly
- Project Steering Committee - chaired by the Environmental Policy and Planning Division, Ministry of Planning
- Project Coordination Unit of the FAO
- Six (6) Pilot Protected Area Subcommittees, made up of stakeholder teams (see pages 4 - 9 of Protect-Ed) and Subcommittee Working Groups
- Contracted research teams and consultants

... and the general population of Trinidad and Tobago! Public support is required to develop a feasible and sustainable system of forest and protected areas.

Here's to great TEAMWORK in going forward!

