

**GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
ENABLING ACTIVITY PROPOSAL IN BIODIVERSITY**

Country	:	Grenada
Project Title	:	Development of a National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan and Report to the CBD.
GEF Focal Area	:	Biodiversity
Country Eligibility	:	CBD Ratification: August 1994
GEF Financing	:	US \$133,520
Government Contribution	:	In kind staff contribution
GEF Implementing Agency	:	UNDP
National Executing Agency	:	Ministry of Finance
GEF Operational Focal Point	:	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
CHM Focal Point	:	To be determined.
CBD Focal Point	:	Ministry of Finance
Estimated Start Date	:	May 1998
Project Duration	:	8 months

I. BACKGROUND

The Eastern Caribbean island nation of Grenada consists of the three main islands: Grenada (312 km²), Carriacou (34 km²), and Petit Martinique (92 km²) and some 10 uninhabited islets. The combined population of Grenada is approximately 95,000 people.

Grenada harbors a diverse assemblage of biological diversity. The island of Grenada is extremely rugged, the landscape characterized by a single, north-south ridgeline that divides the island into 71 watersheds. The ridgeline reaches its highest point at Mount St. Catherine (833 m) the highest peak on the island. The island harbors remnant stands of rainforest, elfin woodlands, and montane forest and is ringed by coral reefs. In contrast, Carriacou and Petit Martinique are low dry islands surrounded by coral reefs. In total, more than 450 species of flowering plants, four species of amphibians, 13 species of reptiles, 150 species of birds, and four native species of terrestrial mammals are known to occur in Grenada. Fifteen plant species occurring here are endemic to the Lesser Antilles region. Four species of sea turtle are known to nest on Grenada's beaches.

The Government of Grenada (GoG) places a high priority on the conservation and sustainable use of its biodiversity resources. The relatively small, closed nature of an island ecosystem creates a special need for protection of natural resources and essentially renders the entire island as "coastal zone" in need of integrated "ecosystem" management. Grenada has been actively involved with AOSIS (Alliance of Small Island Developing States) and has been working to ensure the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States. To date, one large forest reserve (Grand Etang) and two national parks have been established. Two additional marine protected areas are under development for formal submission to Government.

Grenada's legal foundation for sustainable management of its natural resources is comprised of five laws: 1) the Land Development Control Act (1983), 2) the Grenada Fisheries Act (1980), 3) the National Parks and Protected Areas Act (1990), 4) the National Water and Sewerage Authority Act, and 5) the amended Forests, Soil, and Water Conservation Act Amendment (1984). The National Parks and Protected Areas Act establishes the accepted IUCN categories under which protected areas would be established and calls for their management for the conservation of nature and the enjoyment of the people. Under this act, Grenada has established two national parks. The Fisheries Act (1986) provides for the management and development of fisheries as well as the protection of special fisheries areas designated as marine reserves. The Land Development Control Act establishes the legal basis for managing and controlling development throughout Grenada. The Forests, Soil, and Water Conservation Act created a specialized forest management agency to manage the nation's forests and watersheds.

Currently in Grenada, the responsibilities for environmental conservation and management are shared by some 15 institutions. Recently however, a national Sustainable Development Council was established to review government policies and private sector initiatives from a sustainable development perspective. The Council also represents a first step in Grenada's effort to better coordinate the disparate activities related to environmental conservation. The strengthening of environmental legislation and its corresponding enforcement and implementation is an environmental priority, as expressed in Grenada's draft *National Environmental Action Plan* (NEAP). The draft NEAP deals with broader issues of sustainable development including the "brown" sector, such as urban planning, pollution, and some "green" sector issues of renewable natural resources, tourism, and biodiversity conservation. The analysis of environmental issues as well as the goals and objectives set by the NEAP process will facilitate this EA's work in identifying gaps and developing opportunities for specific biodiversity conservation interventions.

Despite the ongoing development of conservation and sustainable development programmes in Grenada, the biodiversity of Grenada is under threat from the needs of a developing economy. Sand mining to supply the burgeoning construction industry is a problem. Coral reefs are under varying degrees of stress throughout Grenada due to sediment run-off, pollution, and uncontrolled visitation.

II. PROJECT OBJECTIVES and PROCESS DESCRIPTION

The objective of this Enabling Activity is to formulate a strategy for the protection and sustainable use of Grenada's biodiversity in accordance with Article 6 of the CBD, as well as prepare a plan of action for their implementation. The primary output will be the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP). Grenada's first National Report to the Conference of the Parties of the CBD will also be prepared for submission by end of the project period. An interim report will be submitted by the December 1997 deadline.

The principal tasks of this project will be to: 1) conduct a comprehensive assessment of the existing information on biodiversity in Grenada; 2) implement a participatory, strategic planning process and develop priorities for action in protecting Grenada's biodiversity culminating in a NBSAP; 3)

conduct a public information campaign to encourage participation in the strategic planning exercises; 4) prepare the first National Report for submission to the COP.

Preparation of the NBSAP will follow a logical sequence of participatory steps in line with the sequence recommended in the WRI/IUCN/UNEP Guidelines. A team of national consultants, led by a project Team Leader, will conduct the initial stocktaking and assessment of existing information. Using the results of this assessment, they will work collaboratively with the national Steering Committee (SC) to prepare a detailed "first draft" outline of the strategy. This draft will outline the present status in the country of key biodiversity resources and related sectors and define specific goals and objectives for the next five years covering a range of sectors including, economic development, forestry, fisheries, tourism, and protected areas. A planning methodology workshop will be undertaken with the assistance of an international consultant, at which time the draft strategy will be considered and approved by the Steering Committee in their first meeting of the exercise.

This draft strategy paper will form the basis for four (4) local consultations – three on the island of Grenada, where the majority of the population lives (one for the western coast, one for the eastern coast, and one for the capital area of St. George's). One combined consultation will be held for the sparsely populated Carriacou and Petit Martinique. These consultations will be held to review the draft strategy paper, discuss possible goals and objectives, and identify strategies to achieve them. NGOs, the private business sector, and local government officials will participate in these local consultations, the inputs from which will form the basis for developing a corresponding Action Plan and bringing the full NBSAP to fruition. A campaign will be held throughout the planning exercise to inform the general public of Grenada's commitments to the CBD, and the participatory nature of the formulation of the NBSAP. The campaign will be carried out by an NGO in a series of newspaper, TV and radio advertisements.

A second draft version of the full NBSAP will be prepared by the project team based upon the input from the initial consultations. This version will be reviewed by the SC and discussed at one national workshop (comprised of nominees from the first round of consultations). Input from these final consultations will be applied to the revision of the second draft into final draft form. The assistance of an international consultant is also requested at this stage of the project.

The Steering Committee will meet in St. George's on four occasions. The first meeting will be held: 1) to provide necessary policy guidance; 2) to ensure that all the stakeholders are included in the planning process; 3) to approve the work plan and corresponding benchmarks for the succeeding eight months. The second meeting will be held to review the draft strategy paper and to discuss the WRI/IUCN/UNEP guidelines. The third meeting will be held to consider the revision of the first draft and inclusion of a draft action plan following the local consultations. A final SC meeting will be held to consider and approve the final version of the strategy and action plan.

III. OPERATIONAL CRITERIA

Coverage without duplication

The NBSAP will build on the materials produced by other, sectoral and multi-sectoral initiatives. Some biodiversity-related information has been generated on Grenada under the regional, Caribbean

umbrella. These initiatives have produced varying degrees of information useful to this exercise and will be utilized. A World Bank/Caribbean Development Bank/ Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) solid waste management project has gone through a detailed planning period and the resulting document will be utilized.

Coral reef surveys and monitoring are ongoing in Grenada under the aegis of an OECS-sponsored Coastal Resources Management Initiative. The French Mission for Cooperation is also working in Grenada to establish a regional, standardized coral reef monitoring programme for the Eastern Caribbean. A World Bank supported C-PAC (Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Global Climate Change Project) will be developing a Caribbean-wide program for monitoring sea level rise, conducting coastal inventories, economic valuations, formulation of regulatory proposals and building policy foundations for coastal zone management.

On the national level, information generated by a range of initiatives related to biodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization will be utilized. Grenada's three-year Medium-term Economic Strategy Paper targets major economic and social development goals for Grenada and emphasizes the importance of environmental sustainability. The Country Environmental Profile, developed with the support of USAID/Caribbean Conservation Association, was completed in 1991. The profile will be a valuable source of information from which the strategy and action plan will be developed.

The French Mission for Cooperation, is working with Grenada's Fisheries Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Forests and Fisheries to develop two marine protected areas – the Molinere reef area and Clarks Cot Bay/Hogs Island. The Forestry Division of the Ministry of Agriculture developed a Tropical Forest Action Plan (approved 1992) and is currently implementing a project supported by the British Development Authority in which forestry legislation and policy is being reviewed, forestry officials trained, and forest reserves demarcated. The Forestry Division, with the assistance of a group of Canadian botanists, conducted a survey of the flora of the Grand Etang forest reserve and the Levara mangroves.

The NGO called GRENCODA (Grenada Community Development Agency), is implementing a UNDP-GEF Small Grants Programme supported Coastal Resource Management Project along the western coast of Grenada (also supported by OECS and the French Mission). The project has completed a socio-economic and biological surveys of the coastal area and has undertaken a case study on sand mining, a major threat to coastal stability in Grenada.

In summary, a number of initiatives, (past and present) have or will yield valuable information to be utilized by this biodiversity planning initiative. However, none have taken a comprehensive, strategic approach to biodiversity conservation in Grenada. This Enabling Activity proposes to do this.

IV. TIME PLAN and SEQUENCING

The project will follow the sequence recommended in the WRI/IUCN/UNEP Guidelines. Activities will start in September 1997 and will last for eight (8) months. The project will be implemented according to the following timetable with specific outputs in bold letters.

Activity	Month							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Stocktaking and Assessment/Development of draft strategy paper	X	X						
Planning Workshop Steering Committee meets to consider WRI guidelines/ First draft of National Biodiversity Strategy completed.		X						
Initiation of Public Awareness Initiative		X	x	x	x	x	x	x
Dissemination of Draft Strategy for discussion/ Local consultations held to discuss Goals and Objectives.			X	X				
Draft Strategy revised and Action Plan developed per input from consultations/ Draft NBSAP completed /Steering Committee meets to consider Draft of Plan					X			
Interim National Report to the CoP submitted				X				
Draft of the NBSAP disseminated to stakeholders in preparation for National Consultation on final version.						X		
National Consultation held with representatives from previous local consultations.						X		
NBSAP Finalized – Final Steering Committee meeting held							X	X
Production of First National Report to the CoP				X				

V. BEST PRACTICES

The methodology for the implementation of the project is based on the "Guidelines for Country Study on Biological Diversity" (UNEP, 1993), the "Guide to the Convention on Biological Diversity" (IUCN, 1994), and the Guidelines for Preparing National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans" (WRI-IUCN-UNEP). The GoG will follow the best practice criteria as contained in the "Enabling Activity Operational Criteria" document.

VI. PROJECT FINANCING

Activities	Product	+	Process	=	Total (US \$)
Stocktaking and Inventory of Existing Information	\$14,000				\$14,000
- 4 national consultants (4 p/m)	12,000				
- documentation	2,000				
Identification and Analysis of Options	\$ 18,000		\$35,500		\$53,500
- 3 national consultants (7 p/m)	10,500		10,500		
- 1 int'l consultant (1 p/m)	6,000		6,000		
- planning workshop			500		
- Consultations (4)			10,000		
- Public Information Campaign			7,000		
- Travel/misc	1,500		1,500		
Preparation of a Strategy and Action Plan	\$24,000		\$26,000		\$50,000
- 3 national consultants (10 p/m)					
- 1 int'l consultant (1 p/m)	18,000		12,000		
- National Consultation	6,000		6,000		
- Publication/Dissemination			4,000		
			4,000		
Preparation of First National Report	\$6,000				\$6,000
- national consultant (1 p/m)	3,000				
- Preparation, publication	3,000				
Sub-Total					\$123,000
Clearing-house	5,020				\$5,020
Coordination/Management (5% of subtotal)			\$5,000		\$5,000
TOTALS	\$67,020		\$66,500		\$133,520

VII. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Appropriate government departments and ministries will contribute sector-specific information, objectives, and actions. The Ministry of Finance and Planning's (MFP) Central Planning Unit is responsible for guiding all GoG strategic planning initiatives. The two governmental entities responsible for on-the-ground biodiversity conservation and management are the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Forests and Fisheries (MoALFF) and the Ministry of Tourism (MoT). The MoALFF's Forestry Division is responsible for the protection and management of forests and wildlife as well as watershed management. The MoALFF's Fisheries Division is responsible for the management and development of fisheries, and the protection and management of marine reserves. The MoT's National Parks Department is responsible for managing the country's historical monuments and national parks. The Ministry of Health and Environment (MoHE) is responsible for development and implementation of environmental health programs.

The existing National Sustainable Development Council will serve as the Steering Committee for this enabling activity. The Council is comprised of 26 representatives from a broad cross-section of Grenadian society. The following are some of the institutions and organizations represented on the Council: the Ministry of Finance, the Physical Planning Unit of Ministry of Finance, the Agency for Rural Transformation (ART), the Chamber of Industry and Commerce, the MoALFF, the MoT, Friends of the Earth, the Office of Disaster Preparedness, GRENCODA, the Ministry of Health and the Environment, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Office of the Prime Minister), and the Council of Churches. Other interests and institutions, both public and private, are represented on the Council as well as on an as-needed basis.

As a member of the Steering Committee, Grenada's GEF Focal Point will be the Project Coordinator. The Project Coordinator will be responsible for the oversight of the implementation of the project and serve as the liaison between the SC and a team of up to (5) five national consultants to be led by a national consultant Project Team Leader. Day-to-day project management authority will be delegated to the Project Team Leader, who will be responsible for planning, management, and completion of all project activities with the assistance of other national consultants. National consultants and NGOs, working in close coordination with government staff, will undertake most of the project's activities. An international consultant will be required for the biodiversity planning methodology familiarization and for advising on the preparation of the first and final drafts of the strategy and action plan.

VIII. PREPARATION OF THE FIRST NATIONAL REPORT

An interim report will be finalized, following the guidelines provided by the CoP, in time for submission by the end of August, 1998. A full national report will be completed by the end of the project period.

Annex A: ACTIVITY MATRIX:

Enabling Activity	Output	Capacity Inst'l Strength	Building Training	Public Particip	Notes
Stocktaking and Assessment - biodiversity & biological resources - cross sectoral issues - policy and regulatory framework - institutional and human capacity - analysis of root causes of BD loss - technologies for conservation and sustainable use - activities with adverse impacts - existing measures and programmes - preliminary statement of objectives - identification of gaps - assessment of existing needs	X (CEP,TFAP) MESP X, (NEAP) X, (CEP) X, (MESP,CEP) X MESP X X X (CEP)				1
Identification and Analysis of Options to meet the Objectives of the CBD - strategies for conservation - strategies for sustainable use - strategies for benefit sharing Planning and Preparation of a Strategy and Plan - national strategy - national action plan	X X X X X	X X X X X	X X X X X	X X X X X	2
Preparation of first National Report - first national report	X				
Clearing-house - in-country assistance - to facilitate use of clearinghouse	X X		X		

Legend: x = activity undertaken by the project

1) Stocktaking and Assessment: No overall assessment of existing information on Grenada's' biodiversity resources has been conducted. In doing so, this enabling activity will draw upon on disparate studies and research papers published in Grenada and internationally. The Country Environmental Profile (CEP), the Tropical Forest Action Plan (TFAP), the draft National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP), Medium-term Economic Strategy Paper (MESP) and other studies, reports (such as GRENCODA's report on its Coastal Resource Management Project), and journal articles will be fully utilized to build a strong assessment upon which the strategy and action planning can take place.

2) Identification and Analysis of Options: Familiarization and local participation. Work will be conducted in such a way as to build capacity while implementing the activities and producing the outputs. Since the EA will be a process driven activity, the local consultations will provide a forum for the participation of broad a cross section of society as possible, thereby strengthening the link between national policy and local implementation. The SC and consultants will be familiarized with the WRI/IUCN guidelines and methodologies by way of a 2-day planning workshop as well as on-the-job familiarization in participatory methodologies as provided by an international consultant.

ANNEX B: Clearing House Mechanism Request

Items	Requested Funding
Hardware (Desktop PC)	US\$3,000
Software (Internet Browsers)	\$700
Modem	\$350
Recurrent Access Costs to Internet Service Provider (for one year)	\$900
Technician set-up fees	\$70
Total	US\$ 5,020