

Caribbean Regional Oceanscape Project Subcomponent 2.1

Expanding Marine Data Aggregation and Analytic Tools

Mapping Ocean Wealth Project Overview

Ocean resources in the Caribbean have the potential to make a much greater contribution to poverty reduction and shared prosperity for the region's growing population of 40 million than they do currently, and to increase the resilience of people to climate change. The Caribbean region has been at the forefront of a movement towards the development of the blue economy and is home to a growing number of developing states that share the Caribbean Sea and have embraced the concept as the centerpiece of future growth strategies.

Given the value of the region's marine space and its resources, with support from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Commission, in partnership with the World Bank, is implementing the Caribbean Regional Oceanscape Project (CROP) to improve systems and put relevant structures in place in an effort to foster a Blue Economy and to promote greater consideration of the ecosystem functions and services, which the ocean provides for member states.

Under the CROP, the OECS Commission has engaged The Nature Conservancy (TNC) to provide consultancy services during the period January 11, 2019 to October 31, 2021. The assignment and its outputs will support improved management of ocean assets in the following ways:

- Delivering novel maps and statistics of ocean assets, focusing on tourism and fisheries, with sufficient resolution and accuracy to support marine spatial planning and other ocean management activities
- Developing and enhancing tools to enable easy access to both visualize and interrogate data and information, at the scale of the Eastern Caribbean
- Providing training to familiarize regional partners with data and tools to ensure uptake of information by the government and other regional practitioners
- Incorporating stakeholder input and feedback into data and tool development to ensure accuracy, relevance, and shared benefits of CROP and its associated data products to the region

Key deliverables for this project include:

- Spatial datasets and maps describing the following ecosystem services (ES):
 - Coral Reef Recreation and Tourism
 - Coral Reef Fisheries
 - Recreational Fishing
 - Other Cultural Values (e.g., nature-based tourism)
- Online and mobile platforms for exploring these datasets
- Country-specific reports with maps and statistics derived from each of the above ecosystem services

Learn more about the Mapping Ocean Wealth Project at Oceanwealth.org or contact Kate Longley-Wood, Project Manager (Kathryn.Longley-Wood@tnc.org)