



Perspectives on Future of the OETS project
CRFM linkages and potential for collaboration

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CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM



Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism



CRFM STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2030



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The CRFM's draft 3rd Strategic plan currently going through its approval stages, recognises a number of opportunities that are consistent with what has been initiated by the OETS project



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- **Strengthening seafood value chains by diversifying chain, diversify and creating value added products to improve monetary value of catches; and expanding market access if the necessary SPS requirements are met;**
- **Implementing the CARICOM COVID 19 Agri-Food Risk Management Framework and Action Plan, specifically through the Response and Recovery Phases and incorporating “building back better” principles where applicable;**
- **Enabling a wider development scope for significant development of the aquaculture / mariculture industry in CARICOM Member States with a focus on food security and export;**
- **Strengthening linkages between local fisheries and tourism sector to generate benefits for local economies;**
- **Enhancing the implementation of sustainable fisheries management policies and measures ... in collaboration with development partners will improve sustainability of catches.**



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There is also consistency between: what the OETS project has tried to achieve; and, the strategic objectives and expected results of the draft CRFM 3rd Strategic Plan.

These can be seen as being supportive of any follow-up initiative



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Strategic Objective 2.1 Competitive and profitable fisheries and marine resource development within the blue economic space of respective member states, has the following expected outcomes:

- **Enhance industries' role and contribution within the blue economy by strengthening Competitive advantage and profitability of fisheries and aquaculture.**
- **Promulgate and support implementation of regulations, guidelines and protocols on Good Fish and Fishery Product Hygiene Practices in private sector companies.**
- **Improved uptake, sustainability, and economies of scale, via development of sustainability plans beyond CRFM assistance period, and via strengthened capacities, established system of documentation and sharing of lessons and best practices for building institutional memory and adaptive learning.**
- **Enhance cross-sectoral collaboration and knowledge generation on differentiated social and cultural factors impacting gender equality and youth engagement in fisheries.**



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Strategic objective 3.1 Promote market development and safe consumption along the fisheries value chains has the following expected outcomes

- **Support fisheries and aquaculture product development through market promotion, value-addition, branding/certification, and enhanced access to low-credit financing mechanisms.**
- **Further development and promulgation of a Caribbean Regional Fisheries Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Framework.**
- **Promote establishment of a CRFM Commercial Research and Innovation Centre.**
- **Develop and adopt protocol under the Common Fisheries Policy to address the role of fish and seafood in contributing to food and nutrition security, including reducing incidences of non-communicable diseases in the region.**



GEF-7 REQUEST FOR PROJECT ENDORSEMENT/APPROVAL

PROJECT TYPE: FULL-SIZED PROJECT
TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF TRUST FUND

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: "BE-CLME+": Promoting National Blue Economy Priorities Through Marine Spatial Planning in the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Plus			
Country(ies):	Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Panama, Saint Lucia	GEF Project ID:	10211
GEF Agency(ies):	Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	GEF Agency Project ID:	CAF-GEF 011 FAO: 658480
Project Executing Entity(s):	Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM)	Submission Date:	20 th May 2021
GEF Focal Area (s):	International Waters, Biodiversity	Expected Implementation Start	1 st October 2021
		Expected Completion Date	30 th September 2025
Name of Parent Program	[if applicable]	Parent Program ID:	

Under the proposed BE: CLME+ (GEF-funded) project, one programming direction is to strengthen blue economy opportunities through catalysing sustainable fisheries management.

- The focal area outcome for this programming direction would be: Policy reforms and strengthened frameworks developed and implemented at the regional and national levels, in support of sustainable fishing practices, market mechanisms to support sustainable fisheries value chains, and the expansion of opportunities for private sector engagement.**

We see synergies in terms of any logical follow-up to the OETS initiative; mainly through consideration of “market mechanisms to support sustainable fisheries value chains”.



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Some of the proposed project outputs resonate with the overall ethos of the OETS approach.

- **Output 1.1.2: National Blue Economy (BE) strategies designed, validated and deployed in project countries (with key marine economic sectors);**
- **Output 1.1.3: Sustainable financing strategies for national BE, designed and validated, highlighting marine-based economic opportunities;**
- **Output 2.1.1: Key seafood value chains assessed and incorporated into national blue economy strategies and marine spatial planning efforts, including identification of future value chains and end market requirements;**
- **Output 2.1.2: Seafood value chain added-value opportunities identified, and market and economic feasibility assessed, including testing innovative post-harvest processing methods and reduction of post-harvest loss and improved/creation of new seafood products to reduce waste;**
- **Output 2.1.3: National policy recommendations developed promoting enabling environment for strengthening of seafood value chains and markets, including empowerment of women, indigenous peoples, and ethnic minorities**

CRFM Secretariat is happy to support initiatives that are consistent with our strategic directions and mandate





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***Thank you for
your kind attention***

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