



CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM

# Oceans Economy and Trade Strategies - the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy: a consideration for the legal framework

Presented by

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# The Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy



Towards building economic as well as ecosystem resilience

# Genesis of the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy

- In 2003, Government of Barbados proposed elaborating a Common Fisheries Regime
- Conference of Heads of Government endorsed the proposal
  - mandated the CARICOM Secretariat to begin work on preparing a common fisheries policy and regime (CFP&R) for the region



- CRFM Forum (of Chief Fisheries Officers and Directors of Fisheries) decided, in March 2003, that it was best placed to provide regional leadership for developing CFP&R.
- Preparation was through a consultative process involving representatives of Member States and regional experts in fisheries, regional integration, and marine law and policy.
- technical work has been guided by
  - CARICOM Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED)
  - CRFM Ministerial Council (comprising Ministers Responsible for Fisheries)



- The Legal Affairs Committee (LAC), in November 2013, recommended the Agreement Establishing the CARICOM Common Fisheries Policy to the Conference of Heads of Government for their signature.





- In October 2014, COTED confirmed CCCFP as the approved policy of the Caribbean Community, this notwithstanding (some may say: “whether or not!”) it’s not being signed as a formal inter-governmental agreement

# CCCFP in brief

- A comprehensive framework Agreement aimed at establishing a cooperative platform for the transformation of the fisheries sector to ensure a better and more secure future for present and future generations.



- Its aim is to create new opportunities for economic growth and prosperity, and bring greater security and hope to people who depend upon the region's living aquatic resources for their livelihoods.

Member States	MCF prod. + AC prod. (meat weight in mt) 2009	Total domestic exports of fish (meat weight in mt)2009	% of MCF prod. + AC prod. that was exported in 2009
Suriname	25 616	21 915	86
Belize	6 729	4 967	74
Guyana	42 348	20 831	49
Bahamas	9 025	2 738	30
Trinidad and Tobago	13 855	3 346	24
Turks and Caicos Islands	879	201	23
Grenada	2 374	510	22
Anguilla	493	46	9
St. Vincent and the Gren.	971	45	5
Jamaica	18 235	738	4
St. Kitts and Nevis	589	19	3
Antigua and Barbuda	1 833	50	3
Barbados	3 467	23	1
Dominica	704	0.44	0.1
St. Lucia	1 858	0.02	0.001
Haiti	16 560	0	0
Montserrat	37	0	0
Totals	145 574	55 430	



# Vision

effective cooperation and collaboration in the conservation, management and sustainable utilisation of the fisheries resources and related ecosystems in the Caribbean region

- in order to secure the maximum benefits from fisheries resources
  - for the Caribbean peoples
  - for the Caribbean region as a whole.



# Goal

To establish appropriate measures for:

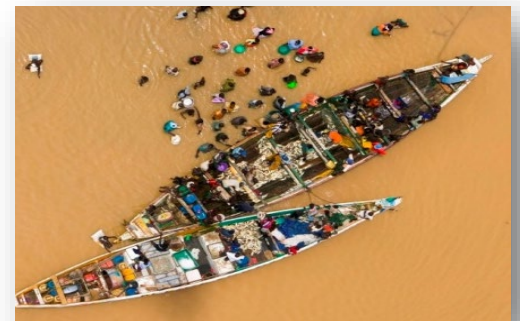
the conservation, management, sustainable utilisation and development of fisheries resources and related ecosystems

- the building of capacity amongst fishers and the optimisation of the social and economic returns from their fisheries;
- the promotion of competitive trade and stable market conditions, so as to realise the vision.



# Objectives

- promote the sustainable development of fishing and aquaculture industries
- develop harmonised measures and operating procedures
- improve the welfare and livelihoods of fishers and fishing communities;
- prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing



- build the institutional capabilities
- integrate environmental, coastal and marine management considerations into policy
- transform the sector to be market-oriented, internationally-competitive and environmentally-sustainable
- strengthen, upgrade and modernise legislation;
- facilitate the establishment of a regime for SPS

# Fundamental Principles

- use of the best available scientific information, taking into account traditional knowledge
- application of internationally-recognised standards and approaches
- the level of fishing effort should not exceed that commensurate with the sustainable use of fisheries resources

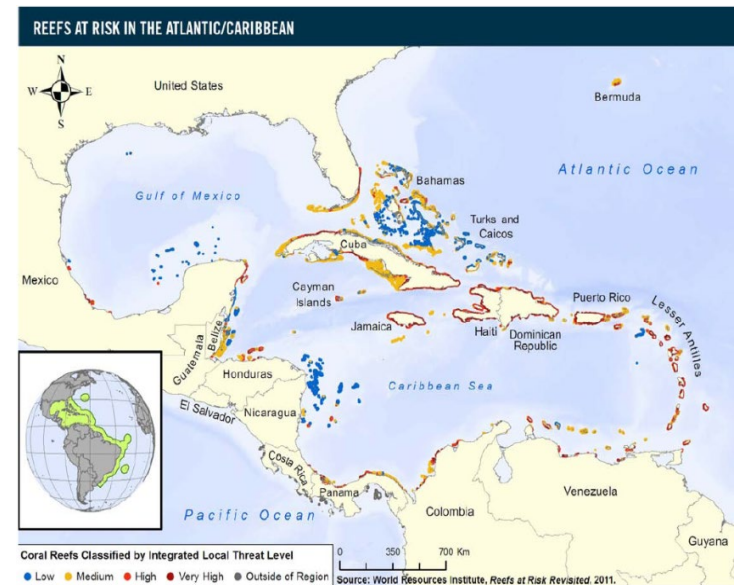


- the participatory approach
- principles of good governance, accountability and transparency
  - including the equitable allocation of rights, obligations, responsibilities and benefits; and
- the principle of subsidiarity
  - the idea that a central authority should perform only those tasks which cannot be performed effectively at a more immediate or local level



# Scope

- development and management of fisheries and aquaculture
- conservation, sustainable development and management of fisheries resources and related ecosystems
- production, processing, marketing and trading of fishery and aquaculture products;
- welfare of fishers.



- within areas under the jurisdiction of Participating Parties
- on board fishing vessels flying the flag of a Participating Party
  - subject to the primary jurisdiction of the flag State when fishing takes place on the high seas
  - subject to jurisdiction of the coastal State when fishing takes place in the waters of a Third State
- to nationals of Participating Parties.



# Areas covered by the CCCFP

Access to Fisheries Resources

Fisheries Sector Development

Statistics and Research

Conservation and Management

Registration and Licensing

Inspection, Enforcement and Sanctions

Confidentiality and Intellectual Property Rights

Dissemination of Information

Public Awareness

Marketing and Trade of Fisheries Resources

CRFM States have been utilising the CCCFP as a mandate/framework to develop a number of regional cooperation and regulatory initiatives, including *inter alia*:

- a Fisheries Management Plan for the Flying Fish Fishery;
- priority plans and targets for Working Groups;
- a regional coral reef action plan (with CCCCC)
- an action plan for aquaculture development;
- a regional Declaration on the Conservation, Management and Sustainable Use of the Caribbean Spiny Lobster;
- a CRFM-OSPESCA Joint Action Plan;
- a draft Fisheries Management plan for the use of Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs); and,
- establishment of a (regional) working group on IUU fishing
- Identification of linkages between fisheries and other economic sectors (tourism; transportation...);

# Lesson learned (?)

## Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy: a consideration for the legal framework:

- Understanding of similarities
- Understanding of differences
- Mandated framework for collaboration
- Political will at all levels (policy making; decision making; “ground level”)
- Supportive partners
- \$\$\$\$\$
- Time

A photograph of a harbor filled with small motorboats. Many of the boats have 'YAMAHA' outboard motors. In the foreground, two swans are swimming in the water. In the background, a group of people are gathered on a pier or dock, some appearing to be working with the boats. The water is calm, reflecting the boats and the sky.

Thank you  
for your attention

*Questions anyone??*

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