TC Abstract

I. Basic Project Data

▪ Country/Region:	Regional - Caribbean
▪ TC Name:	Establishment of the Caribbean Coastal Capital Center of Excellence
▪ TC Number:	RG-T2489
▪ Team Leader/Members:	Team Leader: Cassandra Rogers (RND/CBA); Team Members: Michele Lemay (INE/RND); Maria Claudia Perazza (INE/RND); Kelsey Schueler (INE/RND); Lisa Restrepo (INE/RND)
▪ Indicate if: Operational Support, Client Support, or Research & Dissemination.	Research and Dissemination
▪ If Operational Support TC, give number and name of Operation Supported by the TC:	
▪ Reference to Request: (IDB docs #)	N/A
▪ Date of TC Abstract:	May 8, 2014
▪ Beneficiary:	Regional
▪ Executing Agency and contact name	IDB
▪ IDB Funding Requested:	US$190,000
▪ Local counterpart funding, if any:	US$20,000
▪ Disbursement period (which includes execution period):	15 months
▪ Required start date:	July 15, 2014
▪ Types of consultants (firm or individual consultants):	Firms and individual consultants
▪ Prepared by Unit:	INE/RND
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	CCB/CBA
▪ Included in Country Strategy (y/n); ▪ TC included in CPD (y/n):	N N
▪ GCI-9 Sector Priority:	Poverty reduction and equity enhancement; Supporting development in small and vulnerable countries and (ii) climate change, sustainable (including renewable) energy, and environmental sustainability

II. Objective and Justification

The TC's general objective is to strengthen Caribbean regional capacity for the monitoring, valuation, assessment and restoration of coastal natural capital, through the establishment of a Caribbean Coastal Capital Center of Excellence (CCCCE). The specific objective is to build regional consensus on the scope, functions, institutional arrangements and level of support required for the sustainability of the proposed CCCCE.

The Caribbean's coastal natural capital, which includes the biodiversity and ecosystem services of both living and non-living environmental components (e.g. beaches), is the foundation for a large part of the Region's economy. The Region's coastal and marine natural capital provide goods and services that directly support economic activities such as tourism, fisheries and agriculture as well as social well-being and quality of life. While there is a growing awareness of these benefits, significant gaps remain in: (i) the available analytical tools and the ability to use them; (ii) the available and required level of scientific knowledge to understand spatial and temporal variations in the quality and quantity of healthy ecosystem components; (iii) empirical

evidence of the benefits of coastal natural capital and the costs of loss and restoration; (iv) how to best use evidence to inform policy and related investment decisions; and (v) the ability to determine the total economic value of ecosystems and biodiversity.

As a result, there is need for greater and more formalized cross-disciplinary cooperation to address these gaps. This is particularly important in the Caribbean given the urgent need to be able to respond to the threats posed by changes in living and non-living environments, biodiversity loss, emerging vulnerabilities to the anticipated effects of natural disasters, and the intensification of extreme events associated with climate change and climate variability throughout the Region.

Although there has been a growing number of initiatives that have included the consideration of ecosystem services and valuations in the Caribbean, much of that work has been conducted by organizations and individuals from outside of the Region. The result has been little tangible benefit to the Region in terms of capacity development, expertise, growth of knowledge and policy impact. Building regional capacity in the physical and environmental sciences, and allied social sciences including environmental economics is a necessary condition for the sustainability of climate-resilient coastal zone management. Consequently, there is growing demand from decision-makers for regional expertise and dissemination of best practices in the management of coastal watersheds and marine ecosystems. If this short-coming is to be addressed and a greater emphasis placed on advancing regionally-based expertise, then it is imperative that serious consideration be given to putting in place organizational arrangements that would underpin such initiatives. Centers of Excellence dedicated to assessing and promoting the benefits of biodiversity and ecosystem services are emerging in other parts of Latin America (such as Central America). Thus, a dialogue on the establishment of a comparable capacity focused on the Caribbean's coastal natural capital seems timely.

The proposed CCCCE will build on the capacity of existing regional institutions. In this regard the University of the West Indies (UWI) through its Center for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) is ideally placed to lead the feasibility phase of the work. The proposed CCCCE will also complement and consolidate more than 30 years of Bank support in Caribbean integrated coastal zone management that has been instrumental in spurring the evolution of best practices in the field. Bank support has promoted the use of science-based, state of the art, innovative, economically cost effective, climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable solutions to preserve and protect the coast, and has also highlighted the need to build regional capacity in the physical and environmental sciences and economics of coastal and marine ecosystems.

The proposed TC will contribute to the following GCI-9 lending program priority targets: (i) supporting development in small and vulnerable countries (GN-2616-2); and (ii) climate change, sustainable (including renewable) energy, and environmental sustainability (iii) the IDB's Integrated Strategy for Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation and Sustainable Renewable Energy (GN-2609-1) and its Action Plan (2012-2015 GN-2609-3), specifically its strategic line to strengthen institutional capacity through the economic assessment of climate change vulnerabilities to the Region and benefits of alternative adaptation measures[1] and the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (BES) program.

[1] http://idbdocs.iadb.org/wsdocs/getDocument.aspx?DOCNUM=38200998

III. Description of Activities

Activities described in the following table are fully consistent with the IDB's BES Program[2].

Table 1: Description of Activities

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	EXPECTED OUTPUTS	EXPECTED RESULTS
COMPONENT 1: Preparation of Proposal for Center of Excellence			
1.1 Situational Analysis	- Review of current state of knowledge and expertise related to biodiversity and ecosystem services in the Caribbean, including: identification of best practice, scope and extent of work undertaken in the region, identification of capabilities and gaps, and lessons learned - Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting to review situational analysis	Situational Analysis Report	Establishment of CCCCE
1.2 Functional and Organizational Analysis and Draft Proposal	- Inventory of institutional and individual capabilities, including gap analysis - Formulation and assessment of options for the CCCCE, including: scope, mode of operation, institutional and organizational arrangements and resource implications. - PSC Meeting to review draft project proposal - 2-day Regional stakeholder workshop to obtain feedback on the draft proposal and generate draft action plan	Draft Project Proposal (green paper)	
1.3 Final Draft Proposal development	- Development of final draft project proposal for the CCCCE, including governance structure, strategy and action plan and indicative business plan - PSC Meeting to review and approve final draft proposal	Full Proposal (white paper) for CCCCE	
COMPONENT 2: Engagement with Institutional Host			
2.1 Negotiations with institutional host and formal agreement	- Negotiation meetings with recommended host and collaborating partners regarding implementation of the CCCCE - Signing of Formal Agreements	Formal Agreement/ MOU	

IV. Budget

BES Program resources will finance workshops and the services of individual and firm consultants for this TC. 'The UWI-CERMES will provide counterpart funding (in kind). The total budget for this TC has been estimated at US$210,000 as shown in the following table.

Table 2: Indicative Budget

Activity	Description	IDB Funding US$	Counterpart Funding	Total Funding US$
1.1 Situational Analysis		21,000	2,000	23,000
1.2 Functional and Organizational Analysis		64,250	2,000	66,250
Regional Workshop		44,525	2,000	46,525
1.3 Preparation of Final Proposal		10,500	1,000	11,500
2.1 Negotiations with Institutional host and MOU		6,600	1,000	7,600
PSC Meetings		13,000	12,000	25,000
Research Support		14,250		14,250
Project Management		15,875		15,875
		190,000	**20,000**	**210,000**

[2] http://idbdocs.iadb.org/wsdocs/getDocument.aspx?DOCNUM=37444118

V. Executing Agency and Execution Structure

Given the strategic objectives of the TC in strengthening regional capacity and promoting regional cooperation in biodiversity and ecosystems management, the Bank will execute the TC. The UWI-CERMES will be a collaborating partner.

The Bank has the regional convening capacity to obtain cooperation and broad consensus from the public and private sectors, scientific community and NGOs. The Bank also has the capacity to ensure effective regional dissemination of best practice developed by this TC. The Bank's Country Office in Barbados will monitor and supervise the TC under the overall guidance of the team leader and with the technical support of INE/RND.

The UWI-CERMES will chair a PSC to guide and oversee project progress, provide expert input and ensure the quality of work. The PSC will comprise representatives from regional institutions, the IDB, other Donor Agencies active in the Caribbean, NGOs, policy-makers, academic institutions and governments. It is envisaged that the committee membership would be about 10 persons.

VI. Project Risks and Issues

There is a risk of a lack of participation of key stakeholders in the Region in the process. This risk is mitigated by the establishment of a PSC that will include members from key stakeholder groups. There is also a risk that the recommended institutional host may decline the invitation. This risk is mitigated by the inclusion of potential institutional host candidates throughout the entire process as members of the PSC. In addition, funds will be available to facilitate the participation of PSC members and other stakeholders in consultation meetings.

VII. Environmental and Social Classification

It is not anticipated that the activities to be financed in this TC will have negative direct or indirect social or environmental effects. Therefore the team considers that, according to the Bank's Safeguards Screening Toolkit, this operation should be given a classification of "C": (i) no environmental or social risks; (ii) direct contribution to solve an environmental issue.