

PROCARIBE+

Protecting Our Oceans, Building Resilience, and Investing in Sustainable Blue Economies in the Wider Caribbean

The UNDP/GEF/UNOPS PROCARIBE+ Project works to improve regional ocean governance for lasting, large-scale positive effects throughout a marine region shared by 32 States and Territories, including 16 Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Simultaneously, PROCARIBE+ takes an on-the-ground (in-the-water) approach to directly deliver tangible results in 19 countries.



THE IMPACT OF PROCARIBE+: a selection of Project Outputs

Protecting Our Oceans, Empowering Communities, and Building Sustainable Blue Economies

Marine Spatial Planning (MSP), Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs) in support of sustainable Blue Economies



Expanding Marine Protection:

PROCARIBE+ will support marine Protection in Colombia, Cuba, the Dominican Republic and in the Mesoamerican Reef Region, supporting the protection of 70,000 square Kilometers of ocean space and contributing to the global "30x30" biodiversity goal.



Empowering Fishing Communities:

The project will support the establishment of Fisheries Replenishment Zones led by fishers themselves in Honduras, Guatemala, Belize, and the Dominican Republic, promoting sustainable fishing practices.



Sustainable Blue Economies:

Marine Spatial Planning will be implemented in Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, and the Mesoamerican Reef Region. This approach will ensure both ocean conservation and the development of thriving blue economies that are resilient to climate change.



Traceability for more sustainable fisheries

PROCARIBE+ will establish better tracking systems for key Caribbean fisheries (lobster, shrimp, queen conch) to benefit fishers and protect fish stocks in the Bahamas, Belize, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Panama, and Suriname. This improves market access and profits while reducing pressure on these valuable resources.



Mainstreaming marine ecosystems in climate action

PROCARIBE+ will create enabling conditions for blue carbon financing in Panama and upscale the role of marine and coastal ecosystems in national climate plans (Nationally Determined Contributions "NDC") of at least 5 Wider Caribbean countries. It will also facilitate sharing best practices on "blue NDCs" across the region and beyond.



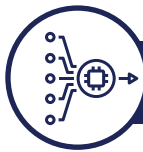
Small Grants for ocean-positive civil society action

Through a US\$2.5 million investment in the "PROCARIBE+ Small Grants Output," the project joins forces with the GEF Small Grants Program to support coastal communities, particularly vulnerable groups, in Small Island Developing States like Antigua and Barbuda, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Saint Lucia. The Grant Program will support civil society projects focused on ocean health, resilience building, and fostering sustainable blue economies.



PROJECT PARTNERS

PROCARIBE+ is working closely with a wide range of partners, including UN agencies, international financial institutions, regional intergovernmental organisations, governments, NGOs, and the private sector. This collaborative approach will ensure broad regional support, active involvement, and the lasting impact of the project's outcomes



PIONEERING A REGIONAL OCEAN COORDINATION MECHANISM

In 2017, the PROCARIBE+'s predecessor project, CLME+, enabled the creation of an Interim Coordination Mechanism (ICM), consisting of nine intergovernmental organizations (IGOs).

Through PROCARIBE+, this interim mechanism is now to be replaced by a more consolidated **Ocean Coordination Mechanism**. This **OCM** will facilitate well-coordinated, collaborative action among **countries** and among **IGOs**, leading to enhanced synergies and greater efficiency and effectiveness of ocean-positive action.

The OCM will deliver a **new regional Strategic Action Programme (SAP)** and mobilize **wide-ranging partnerships** to coordinate shared priorities on the marine environment.

Membership of the OCM will initially be open to 32 States and Territories and 11 IGOs. Countries will constitute the OCM Steering Group, and IGOs will constitute the Executive Group. Throughout the project timeline, the PROCARIBE+ Project Unit will act as the Secretariat for the OCM.

The OCM is expected to become operational before the end of 2024.

CUMMULATIVE PROGRESS



2023-2028



USD 15.4 M

PROCARIBE+ is the most ambitious of three successive regional projects financed by the GEF addressing human interaction with the marine environment in the Wider Caribbean. It follows the successful CLME (2009-2014) and CLME+ (2015-2022) projects, both implemented by UNOPS.

Donor: GEF
GEF Agency: UNDP

ICM Members:



REGIONAL VISION STATEMENT

The CLME+ SAP articulates the following long-term vision:

“A healthy marine environment that supports the livelihoods and well-being of the Peoples from the Wider Caribbean”.

ACHIEVING TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE FOR THE REGION

The region's achievements on ocean governance demonstrates the importance of continued support provided throughout the years through the successive GEF-funded projects. With the OCM in place, the region will be able to drive its own roadmap towards enhancing ocean action for the benefit of the region and its people.

BUILDING TRUST AMONGST PARTNERS

The PROCARIBE+ Project is central to the successful operationalization of the OCM and will solidify alliances amongst OCM members and beyond for positive ocean action. With the guidance of the OCM, PROCARIBE+ will work towards establishing multi-sector partnership(s) to enhance the commitments and active engagement of all sectors of society towards achieving the OCM objectives, including the long-term vision on the marine environment articulated in the CLME+ SAP.

“PROCARIBE+'s support for a regional Ocean Coordination Mechanism is widely welcomed. Better collaboration between international organizations will help advance the region's transition towards sustainable ocean-based development. This holistic approach will allow us to make important progress.”

Diane Quarless, Director of UN ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean

“Developing a sustainable blue economy is a major priority and holds tremendous potential for the wider Caribbean region and its marine resources. We can achieve our 2030 goals if we continue to build awareness about, and trust in, solutions that support both people and nature. The PROCARIBE+ Project and its knowledge sharing components will be a vital part of this.”

Carlos Manuel Rodriguez, CEO and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility (GEF)

Contact us:

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