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From Hook to Cook & Beyond

Managing Flyingfish Fisheries in the Eastern Caribbean



WHAT'S INSIDE

Fast facts on the flyingfish

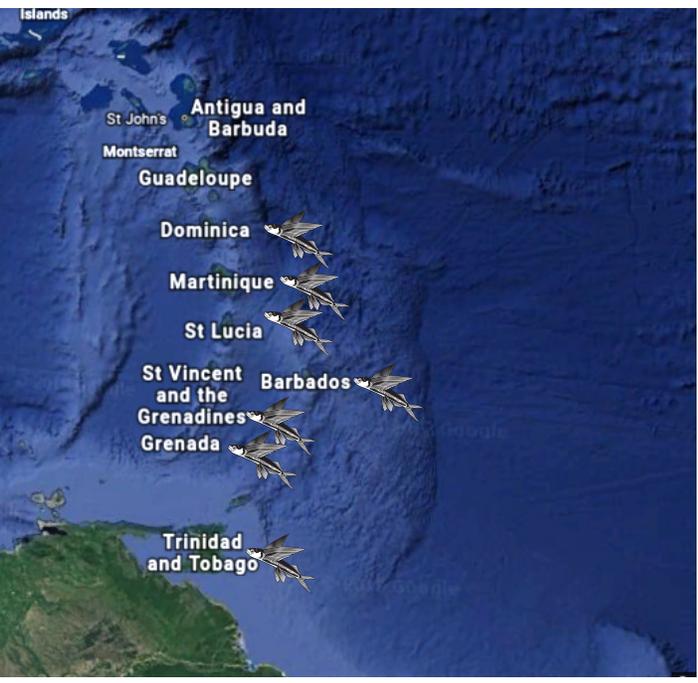
Info on the ecosystem approach to fisheries

Key policies governing the flyingfish fisheries

and much more!



Above: The CLME+ Region. The CLME+ project aims to facilitate the sustainable provision of goods and services from shared living marine resources.



Implementation of the sub-regional Management Plan for Flyingfish (Subregional FMP) in the Eastern Caribbean is part of the CLME+ project. Project countries are marked with a 

Introduction



In the Eastern Caribbean, flyingfish is more than food, it fuels livelihoods.

In recent years, policymakers, scientists and other key stakeholders have seen the need to create best practices for the flyingfish fishery, as well as increase collaboration with all involved in the sector.

To achieve this, the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) is supporting the implementation of the CLME+ Strategic Action Programme (2015-2025), a 10-year Programme for the Sustainable Management of shared Living Marine Resources in the CLME+ region, by promoting an ecosystem approach (EAF) to managing the flyingfish fisheries in the Eastern Caribbean. This approach encourages sustainable use of living marine resources so that people can benefit without wide-scale compromise of the environment.

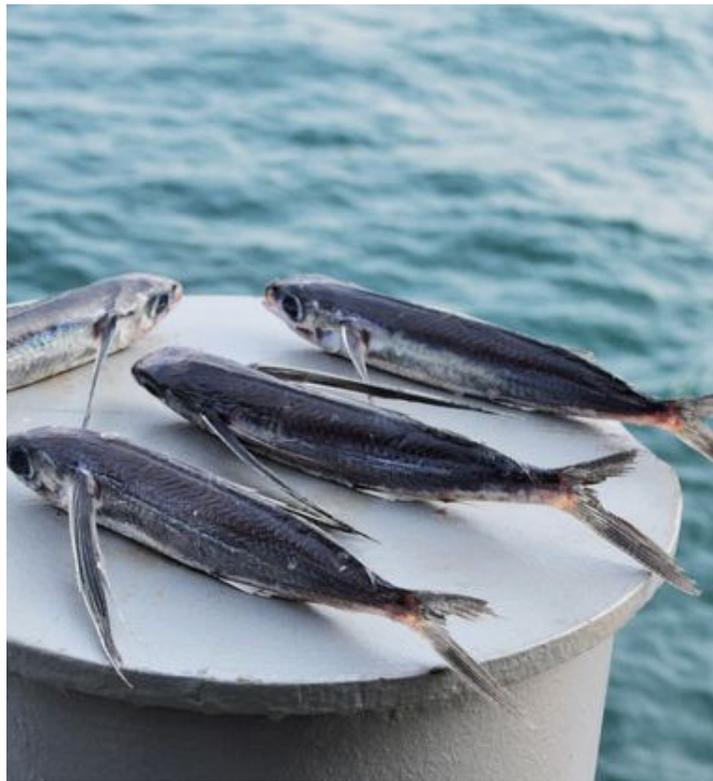
EAF is being integrated into the management of the Eastern Caribbean's flyingfish fisheries as part of the five-year UNDP/GEF CLME+ Project, which is supporting the implementation of the CRFM's Sub-regional Management Plan for Flyingfish (Sub-regional FMP) in the Eastern Caribbean.

The sub-regional FMP targets Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Martinique (France), St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago.

Fast Facts on the Flyingfish



- Flyingfish are found in tropical and subtropical areas.
- They are usually small and have the capacity to glide or 'fly' above water.
- The Eastern Caribbean flyingfish stock is shared by seven countries: Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Martinique (France), St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago.
- The scientific name for the four-wing flyingfish is *Hirundichthys affinis*
- Flyingfish are caught using several methods which are common across the region. These include fish-attracting devices such as bait (or chum) baskets (baskets containing small pieces of fish hung over a fishing boat) screelers (bundles of cane trash), gill nets, hand lines and dip nets.
- Flyingfish are also used in other fisheries as bait to capture larger fish that are its natural predators such as dolphinfish, kingfish and tuna.
- Once the fish are caught, they are often stored on ice and sold at markets, or processed at plants which package and freeze them for resale.
- There are some challenges to the flyingfish fishery. For example, the recent increase of sargassum in the Caribbean has negative impacts among the value chain.



All Hands on Deck!



EAF and the role of stakeholders in the management of flyingfish fishery

What is EAF?

An Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) emphasises that we need to consider not only the fish, but the people and the environment in managing flyingfish fisheries.

EAF's main aim is to plan, develop and manage fisheries in a way that pays attention to the needs of the society without destroying all resources for future generations.



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illustration from fao.org

The Role of Stakeholders

While Governments and Ministries can create and implement laws and policies, work can only be successful when the fishers, vendors, processors, and even restaurant owners and retailers have a say in how the fishery is developed.

Stakeholders can learn from each other on best practices on maintaining healthy fish stocks. Finally, all stakeholders can hold each other accountable for the proper use and management of the environment.





Tools of the Trade

The Main Policies and Stakeholders in the management of flyingfish fishery



The Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCFP)

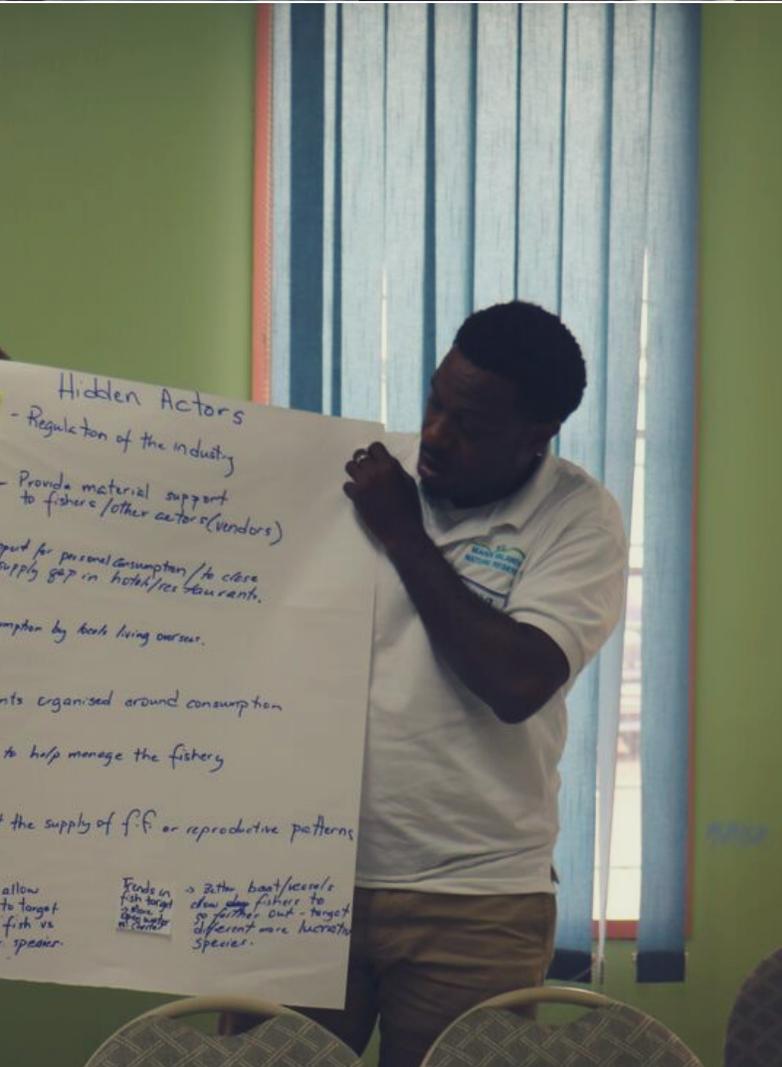
The Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCFP) emphasises the cooperation among Caribbean people, fishermen and their governments in conserving, managing and utilising fisheries and ecosystems in a sustainable way.

The Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM)

The Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) is an inter-governmental organisation aimed at promoting and facilitating the responsible use of the region's fisheries and other marine resources. The CRFM consists of three bodies – the Ministerial Council, the Caribbean Fisheries Forum and the CRFM Secretariat. The Ministerial Council is mainly responsible for the policies of the CRFM and developing cooperative agreements for resource management, and related decision-making.

The Sub-regional Fisheries Management Plan for Flyingfish in the Eastern Caribbean

The Sub-regional Fisheries Management Plan for Flyingfish in the Eastern Caribbean aims to assist the flyingfish stakeholders to implement an ecosystem approach to fisheries management, and to contribute to efficient fishing activities of the flyingfish resource within an economically viable and competitive small-scale fishery.



Hidden Actors

- Regulation of the industry
- Provide material support to fishers/other actors (vendors)
- Input for personal consumption / to close supply gap in hotels/restaurants.
- Empower by both living overseas.
- Actors organised around consumption
- to help manage the fishery
- the supply of f:f or reproductive patterns
- allow to target fish vs speaker.

Finds on *fish target* → either boat/sector/crew who fishers to go further out - target different more hierarchical species.



National Intersectoral Coordination Mechanisms & Fisheries Advisory Committees



National Intersectoral Coordination Mechanisms

- The operational arm of governance/policy processes
- Spans several issues and economic sectors
- Stakeholder organisations that assist in management and facilitate effective governance
- Play key roles in national and regional ocean governance
- Facilitate bilateral linkages between national and regional government processes.

Fisheries Advisory Committees

- Usually made up of various stakeholders within fisheries including fisherfolk, researchers, relevant departments/ministries, community and non-governmental organizations.
- The role of fisheries advisory committees is to provide policy advice on significant issues related to the fishery as well as planning and management.
- FACs can guide fisheries legislation and make decisions on important aspects of fishery management.



*Questions?
Comments?*

Contact:

Melanie Andrews - CANARI

(email) info@canari.org

(telephone) 1-868-638-6062