



ISSN: 1995-5294

CRFM ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

CRFM Progress and Financial Report 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009

*Funded by Members and Associate Members
of the Caribbean Community*

Towards Sustainable Development of Fisheries for the People of the Caribbean



CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM SECRETARIAT

P.O. Box 642, Princess Margaret Dr., Belize City, Belize, C.A.
Tel: 501-223-4443 Fax: 501-223-4446
e-mail: crfm@btl.net

TRANSMITTAL MEMORANDUM OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MEMO TO: Mr. Rufus George, Chairman of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum
Members of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum

FROM: Hugh A. Saul
Executive Director, CRFM Secretariat

SUBJECT: **CRFM Secretariat Technical and Financial Progress Report: 1 April
2008 – 31 March 2009**

Please find enclosed the Technical and Financial Progress Report of the CRFM Secretariat for the period 1 April 2008 – 31 March 2009. The Report is based on activity schedules and budgets from the approved Work Plan and Budget for Programme Year 1 April 2008 – 31 March 2009.

The Report provides an overall description of the status of each programme and activities undertaken by the CRFM Secretariat during the period, allowing for a global appreciation of the progress made.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
Output 100: Management and Support	7
Output 200: Advocacy, Policy and Planning	16
Output 300: Fisheries Statistics and Information	21
Output 400: Fisheries Research and Resource Assessment	26
Output 500: Fisheries Resource Management and Development	36
Output 600: Communication and Documentation	54
Other Activities Implemented during April 1, 2008 – March 31, 2009	55

APPENDIX A – PROCUREMENT LIST

APPENDIX B – CRFM SECRETARIAT STAFF

APPENDIX C – REPORTING USAGE OF ADVANCES RECEIVED

List of Acronyms

ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific States
CARDI	Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute
CARICAD	Caribbean Centre for Development Administration
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CARIFIS	Caribbean Fisheries Information System
CARIFORUM	Caribbean Forum of ACP States
CARISEC	CARICOM Secretariat
CBCRM	Community-Based Coastal Resources Management
CCRF	Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries
CERMES	Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies
CFF	Caribbean Fisheries Forum
CFU	CARICOM Fisheries Unit
CFRAMP	CARICOM Fisheries Resource Assessment and Management Programme
CFP&R	Common Fisheries Policy and Regime
CFTC	Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation
CFTU	Caribbean Fisheries Technical Unit
CIDA	Caribbean International Development Agency
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CLWG	Conch and Lobster Fisheries Working Group
COTED	Council on Trade and Economic Development
CRFM	Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism
CRP	Caribbean Regional Queen Conch Research Programme
CSME	Caribbean Single Market and Economy
CTA	Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation ACP-EU
DFID	Department for International Development (UK)
DFMR	Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources
DRAO	Deputy Regional Authorizing Officer
DR	Dominican Republic
EC	Eastern Caribbean Currency
EC	European Commission
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EPA	Economic Partnership Agreement
ESDU	Environmental and Sustainable Development Unit
EU	European Union
FAC	Fisheries Advisory Committee
FAD	Fish Aggregating Device
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FMP	Fisheries Management Plan
GECAFS	Global Environmental Change and Food Systems
GEF	Global Environmental Fund
IAC	International Agricultural Centre
ICCAT	International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas

ICRAFD	Integrated Caribbean Regional Agriculture and Fisheries Development Programme
IDRC	International Development Research Centre
IOCARIBE	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) Sub-Commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions
IMMARBE	International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize
IOI	International Oceans Institute
IUU	Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated
IMA	Institute of Marine Affairs
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
LAPE	Lesser Antilles Pelagic Ecosystems (Project)
LME	Large Marine Ecosystem
LPWG	Large Pelagic Fisheries Working Group
LRS	Licensing and Registration Software
MALMR	Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Marine Resources
MAREMP	Marine Resource Environmental Assessment and Management Programme
MCS	Monitoring, Control and Surveillance
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NFO	National Fisherfolk Organisation
NGOs	Non-Government Organizations
OCT	Overseas Countries and Territories
OECS	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
RPTF	Regional Preparatory Task Force
RSWG	Reef and Slope Fisheries Working Group
SANREM CRSP	Sustainable Agriculture and National Resource Management Collaboration Support Programme
SAP	Systems, Application and Products in Data Processing
SCPWG	Small Coastal Pelagic Fisheries Working Group
SVG	St. Vincent and the Grenadines
SCRS ICCAT	Standing Committee on Research and Statistics
SPS	Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary
TCDC	Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries
TIP	Trip Interview Programme (Data collection software package)
TOR	Terms of Reference
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UK	United Kingdom
UWI	University of the West Indies
WECAFC	Western Central Atlantic Fisheries Commission of the FAO, United Nations
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Work Programme Milestones and Budget Approvals

Work Programme Start: 1 April 2008

Work Programme Budget Approval: Yes

Cost Limitation: US\$1,171,014 (EC\$3,147,919)

The Executive Director of the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) Secretariat continued to liaise with Member States to make good on arrears and to pay current contributions to the Budget of the CRFM Secretariat. Ten (10) Member States made contributions during the period (1 April 2008 – 31 March 2009) totaling EC\$2,595,181 (US\$965,397). The arrears fell from EC\$965,588 as at 31 March 2008 to EC\$676,388 as at 31 March 2009.

The 6th Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum was held 8 - 9 May 2008, Paramaribo, Suriname. The meeting elected a new Executive Committee of the Forum and considered, *inter alia*, the status of the draft Framework Agreement on the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime; the draft Regional Declaration on IUU Fishing and MCS for the CRFM Member States; the status and issues affecting Queen Conch and Lobster fisheries; ICCAT 2007 Commission Meetings and Compliance Issues; Overdraft facility for the CRFM Secretariat; the CRFM Secretariat's Annual Work Plan and Budget 2008 / 09; the CRFM Operations Manual; and the CRFM Second Medium Term Plan.

The CRFM and CARICOM Secretariats continued to provide technical leadership and financial support for the development of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime (CFP&R) in keeping with the mandate of the Conference of Heads of Government. The 23rd Special Meeting of the COTED, held in Jamaica, 9 – 11 October 2007, reviewed the status report on the CFP&R and requested that the CARICOM Secretariat provide legal opinions as to whether the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime, and the proposed Common Fisheries Zone are grounded in the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas, and to clarify whether the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime applied only to CARICOM Member States which are party to the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas or to CRFM Member States, given that not all Members of the CRFM are signatories to the Revised Treaty. The Legal Opinion was formally submitted to the 27th COTED held in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, October 2008. The Ministerial Meeting of the COTED (Agriculture) deferred the matter to the meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council to ensure full consideration of all the relevant issues. The 1st Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council was held in St. Vincent and the Grenadines on 14 January 2009. The meeting reviewed the development of the policy, noted the concerns of Member States, and decided to take a sequential approach to the development of the Policy and Regime focusing first on the development of the Common Policy and after securing agreement on this, moving to the elaboration of the Regime.

During 10 - 20 June 2008, the Secretariat convened CRFM's Fourth Annual Scientific Meeting, which was attended by 13 Member States. During this meeting, data from 8 fisheries within the CRFM region were examined and analysed to facilitate development of management advice. Also,

the Report of the Third Meeting of the CRFM Ad Hoc Working Group on Methods was presented for review and endorsement by the Scientific Meeting. The Report of the Fourth Annual Scientific Meeting was finalized and published in electronic and paper format.

In 2007, funds were sourced through the CARICOM Secretariat, for the preparation of the CRFM's Operations Manual. The CRFM Secretariat then engaged CARICAD to provide professional services in preparing the manual. The Operations Manual was discussed and endorsed at the 1st Meeting of the Ministerial Council in January 2009.

During April to June 2008, the CRFM Secretariat continued to provide support to Member States with the development and use of the CARIFIS database. The Secretariat continued to provide technical support in areas such as the transfer of the legacy databases from TIP and LRS to CARIFIS, training in querying and reporting and debugging of the software. Nine (9) Member States were provided with various assistances towards implementation of CARIFIS during the period. These were: Anguilla, Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago.

Also, during this period, the Secretariat provided technical assistance to Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat, St. Lucia and Turks and Caicos Islands to review the data collection and management systems for their respective marine fisheries. The Reports on the Review of the Data Collection and Management Systems of the Marine Fisheries for Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas and the Turks and Caicos Islands were sent to these countries.

During the 2006 / 07 programme year the Secretariat followed through with the decision to recruit a junior officer, provide training 'in house' and build capacity to post graduate level, so that he/she may be eventually promoted to fill the vacant post of Programme Manager, Statistics and Information. Since September 2008 the Research Graduate, Statistics and Information (Mrs. June Masters) has been assigned responsibility for the Fisheries Statistics and Information Programme. This responsibility includes assisting in the establishment, management and maintenance of relevant CRFM databases (e.g. CARIFIS, and any CRFM regional database). It is envisioned that Mrs. Masters will be further trained on the job to the competency level of Programme Manager Statistics and Information. Since being assigned the responsibility Mrs. Masters has been providing CARIFIS technical and none technical assistance and CARIFIS training to Member States, and has provided strengthening to this programme area.

ICCAT - The CRFM Secretariat continued to provide technical support to countries on ICCAT matters and to provide observer status representation at ICCAT meetings on behalf of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). In particular, the Secretariat provided support to countries in respect of preparation of country statistics for submission to ICCAT. Additionally, the CRFM Secretariat participated in the 2008 annual meetings of the ICCAT SCRS and Commission and prepared reports on these meetings for use by CRFM Member States in management planning and decision-making for their tuna and tuna-like fisheries. In response to a request made by the Caribbean Fisheries Forum in May 2008, a Brief on ICCAT was prepared to advise CRFM Member States on various levels of participation in ICCAT activities, in accordance with countries' levels of tuna and tuna-like fishery development. During PY 2008 / 09, the CRFM Secretariat also collaborated with the ICCAT Secretariat to plan and convene the first ICCAT Data Training Workshop in the Caribbean. The government of Guyana hosted this ICCAT Data Training Workshop, which took place during 16 - 20

February 2009. Fisheries officers from 9 CRFM Member States had the opportunity to participate in this training Workshop which focused on statistical reporting to ICCAT, review of data collection gaps and needs, sampling theory, and use of MS Excel and its 'poptools' add-in to perform specific fishery data analyses. The Workshop also made a number of recommendations for additional assistance required from ICCAT to improve data and sampling. A report of the training Workshop is available in electronic format at the time of writing this report.

Resource Assessment - During 10 - 20 June 2008, the Secretariat convened CRFM's Fourth Annual Scientific Meeting, which was attended by 13 Member States. During this Meeting, CRFM Resource Working Groups examined data from nine fisheries: the crevalle jack (*Caranx hippos*) fishery of Trinidad and Tobago; the spiny lobster (*Panulirus argus*) fisheries of Bahamas and Jamaica; the queen conch (*Strombus gigas*) fishery of St. Lucia; the reef and slope fisheries of Turks and Caicos Islands and St. Kitts and Nevis; the whitemouth croaker (*Micropogonias furnieri*) fishery of Trinidad and Tobago; and the Atlantic Seabob (*Xiphopenaeus kroyeri*) fisheries of Guyana and Suriname. A plan of action for strengthening the information base used to inform the development of management and conservation measures was developed by the Meeting for the small coastal pelagic fisheries. The Large Pelagic Fish Resource Working Group reviewed the status of large pelagic fisheries data, research and assessment in the region, and used this information to develop an agreed Working Group action plan for the short to medium term. The Meeting also reviewed and adopted the Report of the Third Meeting of CRFM's ad hoc Working Group on Methods. This was the final Meeting of that ad hoc Working Group. A proposal to establish a CRFM Working Group on Data, Methods, and Training was reviewed and endorsed by the Meeting. The Report of the Fourth Annual Scientific Meeting has been finalized and published in electronic format on the CRFM website. Based on a decision taken during the Thirteenth Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum held during 8 - 9 December 2008, the Secretariat prepared a proposal for establishing a CRFM Scientific Committee that would facilitate a formal level of recognition of the work of the CRFM annual scientific meetings and the associated CRFM resource working groups. The proposal for establishing the CRFM Scientific Committee will be reviewed for adoption at the next meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum.

Technical / scientific regional networking efforts - Representatives from UWI (CERMES and CARDI), IMA (Trinidad and Tobago), NMFS SEFSC (Miami, Florida, USA), the University of Miami, VIMS (Virginia, USA), and FAO (Barbados Office) participated in the Fourth Annual Scientific Meeting. Scientists from NMFS SEFSC, the University of Miami and VIMS, as well as a statistician from UWI (CARDI) provided direct assistance with fisheries evaluations conducted in 2008. In addition, the Secretariat participated in the Second Caribbean Community Climate Change Conference, held in St. Lucia during March 2009, and identified options for climate change policy and scientific advisors to collaborate with the CRFM in the future. The CRFM and ICCAT collaborated to convene the first ICCAT Data Training Workshop in the CARICOM region.

Research - In response to a request from the Fisheries Division of St. Vincent and the Grenadines in September 2007, the Secretariat was engaged in assisting with studies to estimate the abundance and distribution of the queen conch and spiny lobster resources of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The Secretariat provided specific recommendations for developing a sampling plan for a visual survey of conch and spiny lobster. The field survey was re-scheduled for August-September 2009, in view of delays in 2008 caused by a boat accident. A socio-economic study of the spiny lobster fishery of St. Vincent & The Grenadines, which began early in 2008, was completed during the reporting period.

and has been finalized and submitted to the government concerned. In addition, at the time of writing this report, the Secretariat was assisting the Fisheries Division of St. Vincent and the Grenadines with improving sampling of its small coastal pelagic fishery and an evaluation of various social and economic aspects of the industry.

The Secretariat participated in the FAO Global Conference on Small Scale Fisheries: Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries – Bringing together responsible fisheries and social development, in Thailand, from 13 – 17 October 2008. At this Conference, the Secretariat's representative, Mr. T. Phillips, Programme Manager, Fisheries Management and Development, was a member of the panel addressing *Regional Initiatives*. He also took part in the Thirteenth Session of the WECAFC and the Tenth Session of the WECAFC Lesser Antilles Committee, in Colombia, from 21 – 24 October 2008.

The Secretariat also participated in the FAO Fourth Annual Meeting on the National Medium Term Priority Frameworks (NMTPFs), from 2 - 6 March 2009, in Barbados. The objectives of the Meeting were to: prepare NMTPFs using FAO templates and tools; prepare a Sub-regional Programme using FAO templates and tools; and share perspectives on successful strategies for the development of agriculture and food security in the Caribbean.

The CRFM Secretariat continued to assist Member States with the development of their Fisheries Management and Development Plans. The FMPs for Grenada and Dominica were updated and submitted to the respective Fisheries Departments for review. Grenada has since provided a schedule of events that would lead to the finalization and approval of their FMP. In follow-up activities with Anguilla, a similar schedule for finalization and approval was provided.

CRFM Secretariat continued to implement the CTA and CRFM Secretariat funded project *Development of Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations*. The project is to be implemented over the period 2006 - 2008. To date, the Secretariat has prepared and distributed Issues 1, 2, 3 (Special Issue), 4, 5, 6 and 7 of the Fisher Folk Net Newsletter; provided technical assistance to six countries; Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines in the organization and convening of the National Consultations to launch National Fisherfolk Organizations; prepared and published the 2008 Fisheries Stakeholders Directory, with an update being finalized for publication in 2009. It has organized and convened the Regional Fishers Stakeholder Workshop to promote the Launching of a Caribbean Network of National Fisher Folk Organizations, in Grenada in September 2007, and the Training Workshop on Management, Communication and Advocacy for Fisher Folk Organizations, in St. Lucia in October 2008. Twenty seven persons, mainly fisherfolk leaders, from eleven Member States received training at the St. Lucia Workshop. Work on the development of the website for the Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organizations commenced during this period and is slated for completion in May 2009.

In January 2009, with funding from the Commonwealth Foundation and CTA, the CRFM Secretariat, in collaboration with CANARI and UWI-CERMES organized and conducted a workshop on regional fisherfolk organizations policy influence and planning. The Workshop sought to provide fisherfolk leaders with up-to-date information on fisheries initiatives in the region so as to encourage their active participation in advancing fisheries policy recommendations; and review previous activities of the Regional Fisherfolk Organization Coordinating Unit (RFO-CU) and prepare strategic and action plans, including a communication strategy and plan for the RFO-CU.

The CRFM Secretariat and the United Nations University Fisheries Training Programme (UNU – FTP), located in Iceland, executed an MOU establishing a long-term relationship for the purpose of building national and regional capacity for fisheries development and management in the region. The UNU-FTP has agreed to offer up to three (3) training fellowship to Fisheries Officers from the CRFM Member States each year for a period of 3 years. In this regard, fellowships were awarded by the UNU - FTP, to Mrs. June Masters, Research Graduate, CRFM Secretariat and Ms. Dawn Maison, Principal Fisheries Officer, Guyana to undergo a six (6) months period of training in Iceland. Studies commenced in September, 2007 and both candidates successfully completed their courses of study in March 2008. A third fellowship was awarded to a Fisheries Officer from the Fisheries Department in Belize but the candidate was not able to take up the scholarship.

The CRFM requested Member States to submit candidates for the second round of training under the UNU-FTP Programme. However, only one candidate from the region was successful, Dr. Lucille Grant, Fisheries Officer, Fisheries Division, St. Vincent and the Grenadines. She was offered a 6 month fellowship under the UNU – FTP programme for studies in Iceland from September 2008 – March 2009, but declined to take up the offer shortly before the scheduled commencement of the programme, thus rendering it impossible to find a substitute candidate.

Member States were asked to submit nominations for three fellowships to undertake six (6) months of training in Iceland commencing September 2009. The Training covers such specialist areas as:

- (1) Fisheries policy and planning;
- (2) Resource assessment and monitoring;
- (3) Processing and quality management;
- (4) Management of fisheries companies and marketing;
- (5) Fishing technology and aquatic environmental assessment and monitoring.

The successful candidates for the September 2009 – March 2010 courses were Mr. Mauro Gongora of the Fisheries Department, Belize; Ms. Anginnette Murray, Fisheries Department, Belize; and Ms. Maren Hedley, CRFM Secretariat, St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

In addition to the UNU-FTP regular training programme in Iceland the MOU also provides for the development of short courses within the Caribbean Region.

During December 2008, a UNU-FTP Team met with a CRFM Secretariat / UWI-CERMES Team to discuss and outline two short courses on statistics and stock assessment, and on advance leadership development targeted at the heads of national fisheries administrations and other fisheries related organizations for CRFM Member States. Project proposals for both courses were prepared by the CRFM in collaboration with the UNU-FTP and submitted, January 2009, to the fund established in September 2008 by Iceland to support Small Island Developing States, the Island Growth Initiative for funding consideration.

Further, Fisheries Officers from CRFM Member States continued to benefit from training

opportunities and fellowships for studies in Canada made available under the CRFM – International Ocean Institute (IOI) Agreement of 2004. Four scholars from the CRFM Member States underwent training at IOI, Dalhousie University, Canada, from May - July 2008. The scholars were selected from: Belize (Mr. Wilfredo Pott, Fisheries Officer), Suriname (Mr. Soereschandre Kalpoe, Deputy Director of Fisheries), St. Kitts and Nevis (Ms. Jihan Williams, Crown Counsel), and St. Vincent and the Grenadines (Mr. Hyrone Johnson, Senior Fisheries Assistant, Fisheries Division). Additionally four scholars were selected in January - February 2009 to undergo training in Canada during the May - July 2009 training programme. The successful scholars were from: Antigua and Barbuda (George Looby); Belize (Maxine Monsanto), Jamaica (Dehaan Brown), Turks and Caicos (Wesley Clerveaux).

The CRFM Secretariat continued its resource mobilization efforts during this period, with attention being given to the following projects:

- (i) CRFM / JICA Formulation of a Master Plan on Sustainable Use of Fisheries Resources for Coastal Community Development in the Caribbean: The Scope of Work was signed by the CARICOM Secretariat, JICA and CRFM Secretariat in December 2008.
- (ii) EU-ACP Fish II Project: Programme for Strengthening Fisheries Management in ACP Countries: This Project, which has been approved, is likely to commence implementation during the p.y. 2009 / 10.
- (iii) Sustainable Development of the Queen Conch (*Strombus gigas*) Resources in the CARICOM States: Based on feedback from the FAO, the Project Proposal: *Sustainable Development of the Queen Conch (Strombus gigas) Resources in the CARICOM / CARIFORUM States* was revised and submitted formally to the FAO through CARISEC. A similar Project Proposal was prepared and submitted to the IDB under the CARICOM/IDB programme. It was also shared with NOAA for funding consideration.
- (iv) Enhance the Effectiveness of MCS in the CARICOM Region: A Project Proposal to enhance the effectiveness of monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) at the national, sub-regional and regional levels to deter, prevent and eliminate illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing was prepared and submitted to the IDB under the CARICOM/IDB programme. A similar proposal was provided to NOAA for funding consideration.
- (v) Diagnostic Study to Determine the Poverty Levels in Fishing Communities in selected CARICOM / CRFM Member States: The Project, with an estimated budget of US\$328,872, has been approved for implementation.

ACTIVITY 100: Management and Support	
Output:	CRFM (Belize) Conducting and implementing agreed Programmes / projects and activities, and liaising with Member States, Executive Committee of the Forum, CARICOM Secretariat, etc.
Activity Start:	1 April 2008
End:	31 March 2009
Activity Progress Report Summary	
Total Budget:	US\$320,173
Spent:	US\$347,292
	Balance: (US\$27,119)
Will complete Activity within Total Budget: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Completion of Activity (Work plan): ahead <input type="checkbox"/> behind <input type="checkbox"/> on <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> schedule	
Completion of Total Activity: ahead <input type="checkbox"/> behind <input type="checkbox"/> on <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> schedule	

Management and Support

During the reporting period, the CRFM Secretariat provided support for the implementation of activities approved in the Annual Work Plan and Budget, 1 April 2008 – 31 March 2009.

Office furniture and equipment etc. were procured as stated at **Appendix A: Procurement List**.

With regards to **Appendix B: CRFM Secretariat Staff**, Mr. Terrence Phillips, Programme Manager, Fisheries Management and Development, continued acting as Deputy Executive Director up to 30 June 2008 (Mr. Haughton proceeded on Study Leave in the United Kingdom for the period 4 October 2007 to 30 June 2008). Mr. Haughton, Deputy Executive Director, returned to work on 1 July 2008. Mr. Anthony Mills, Corporate Services Manager, passed away on 14 September 2008. He joined the CRFM Secretariat on 16 August 1998 and contributed immensely to its growth and evolution during its move from under the CFRAMP Project. The Senior Finance Officer, Mrs. Charlene Sooknandan, resigned from the CRFM Headquarters, effective 31 March 2009 due to the relocation of her family. Mr. Delmar Lanza was hired as Manager, Finance and Administration, on 16 February 2009.

These changes in staff have prompted management to restructure the Corporate Services Unit and the Support Staff in order to maintain the same level of delivery. A restructuring proposal was prepared and presented to the Forum for consideration, and is currently awaiting approval by the Ministerial Council.

Management liaised with Member States to make good on arrears and current contributions to the Budget of the CRFM Secretariat. Ten (10) Member States made contributions during the period (1 April 2008 – 31 March 2009) totaling EC\$2,595,181 (US\$965,397). The arrears fell from EC\$965,588 as at 31 March 2008 to EC\$676,388 as at 31 March 2009.

During the period under review the CRFM Secretariat organized and convened, as well as provided technical, administrative and rapporteurial support to the following meetings / workshops:

- (i) One-Day National Consultation on Guyana becoming a Contracting Party to ICCAT, 24 April 2008, Guyana.
- (ii) Eleventh Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Forum, 5 – 6 May 2008, Suriname.
- (iv) Sixth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum, 8 – 9 May 2008, Suriname.
- (v) Meeting with the Mrs. Cheryl Thompson-Barrow, General Counsel, H. Sam Lawrence, Adviser, Regional Transformation Programme for Agriculture, Ms. Franzia Edwards, Programme Manager (ag.), Resource Mobilisation and Technical Assistance, Mr. Desmond Alfred, Executive Director, Administration and Financial Services, Mr. Desmond John, Project Coordinator, Caribbean Integration Support Programme, Regional Mobilisation Technical Assistance, Staff of Human Resource Management, CARICOM Secretariat to discuss matters related to resource mobilization, housing of staff, etc., 22 – 23 May 2008, Guyana.
- (vi) Public Seminar titled “The Caribbean Sea: Harnessing and Protecting a Vital Resource,” 1 July 2009, Barbados.
- (vii) Start-up of the FAO TCP Project to review the National Fisheries Data Collection System of Suriname, 21 – 22 July 2009, Suriname.
- (viii) Conducting Spiny Lobster and Queen Conch Visual Surveys, Fisheries Department, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, 5 – 31 August 2009.
- (ix) CRFM Senior Management Meeting, Belize
- (x) Fisheries Training Programme, specializing in Marine and Inland Waters Resources, Assessment and Monitoring (Stock Assessment) at the United Nations University in Reykjavik, Iceland, 3 September 2007 – 3 March 2008 (June Masters)
- (xi) Twelfth Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum, 4 – 5 September, 2008, St. Lucia

- (xii) Training Workshop on Management, Communication and Advocacy for Fisherfolk Organizations, 22 September – 3 October 2008
- (xiii) 2008 Annual ICCAT SCRS Meeting, Madrid, Spain, 22 September – 3 October 2008
- (xiv) Whale and Fish Interactions: Are Great Whales a Threat to Fisheries Expert Workshop, Grand Barbados Beach Resort, Barbados, 23 – 25 September 2008
- (xv) 61st Annual Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute Conference, 10 – 14 November 2008, Gosier, Guadeloupe
- (xvi) CTA Smart Toolkit Workshop, 17 – 21 November 2008, St. Lucia
- (xvii) 2008 Annual ICCAT Commission Meeting, 17 – 24 November 2008, Marrakech, Morocco.
- (xviii) CRFM / UNU-FTP / UWI Joint Meeting to Plan Stock Assessment Course, 3 – 5 December 2008, Barbados
- (xix) Thirteenth Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum, 8 – 9 December 2008, Barbados
- (xx) CLME Project Symposium titled “Marine Ecosystem Based Management in the Caribbean: An Essential Component of Principled Ocean Governance”, 10 – 12 December 2008, Cavehill Campus, UWI, Barbados
- (xxi) First Meeting of the Ministerial Council Meeting, 16 January, 2009, St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- (xxii) CTA / CRFM / CANARI / UWI-CERMES Workshop on Regional Fisherfolk Policy Influence and Planning, 13 - 15 January 2009, St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- (xxiii) Training Workshop on CARIFIS, 4 – 5 February 2009, Fisheries Division, Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- (xxiv) ICCAT Training Workshop on Data Collection and Improvement in the Caribbean Region, 16 – 20 February 2009, East Coast Demerara, Guyana
- (xxv) Training Workshop on CARIFIS, 1 – 7 March 2009, Fisheries Division, St. Kitts and Nevis
- (xxvi) FAO Fourth Annual Meeting on the National Medium Term Priority Frameworks (NMTPFs), 2 – 6 March 2009, Barbados
- (xxvii) Second Caribbean Community Climate Change Conference, 23 – 24 March 2009, St. Lucia
- (xxviii) First Meeting of the Multidisciplinary Working Group on the Common Fisheries Policy for CARICOM, 26 – 27 March 2009, Guyana.

Resource Mobilisation

The CRFM Secretariat continued to liaise with and lobby donor agencies with regard to resource mobilization as below-mentioned:

1. CRFM Operations Manual

Funding was secured from the Canadian Government through the Resource Mobilisation Unit of the CARICOM Secretariat for the preparation of the CRFM Operations Manual. The funds were earmarked for employing CARICAD to undertake the preparation of the Operations Manual through a consultancy agreement.

The Operations Manual for the CRFM was finalized and approved by the Ministerial Council of the CRFM in January 2009. Since 2003 the CRFM operations were guided by the CARISEC Manual. This new manual contains five (5) volumes and is the result of sustained technical input by the Caribbean Center for Development Administration (CARICAD), reviews and refinements undertaken by management, The Caribbean Fisheries Forum and the Executive Committee of the Forum.

We are grateful to the Secretary-General, CARICOM and the CARICOM Secretariat for providing the financial resources to undertake this assignment.

2. EU Funded Projects: Strengthening Fisheries Management ACP Fish II Project, and Strengthening Fishery Products Health Conditions in ACP/OCT Countries

Financing for two EU projects were approved, (i) *Strengthening Fisheries Management in ACP countries Fish II* (estimated CARICOM States allocation - 6.5 million Euros) and (ii) *Strengthening Fishery Products Health Conditions in ACP / OCT countries* (Global project valued at 44.860 Euro).

Consultants have been engaged by the European Commission to begin project implementation. The implementation of these projects will greatly benefit all CRFM Member States, by building and strengthening technical capacities at both the regional and national levels, and promote compliance in the export of fish and fish products to EU Member States.

3. Development of Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations

CRFM Secretariat continued to implement the CTA and CRFM Secretariat funded project *Development of Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations* whose purpose is to develop institutional capacities of Fisher Folk Organisations at the regional, national and community levels over the period 2006 / 07 – 2008 / 09. To date the following outputs have been achieved; Issues 1, 2, 3 (Special Issue) and 4 of the Fisherfolk Net Newsletter have been prepared and distributed; technical assistance provided to six countries: Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines; organization and convening of National Consultations to launch National Fisherfolk Organisations; awarded a contract for and received the final draft of the Fisherfolk Stakeholders Directory, and organized and convened the Regional Fishers Stakeholder Workshop to promote the Launching of a Caribbean Network of National Fisher Folk Organisations,

Workshop Report and the Fisheries Stakeholder Directory were published. A consultant has been recruited to begin work on the Development and Maintenance of a Website under agreed Terms of Reference.

4. Diagnostic Study to Determine Poverty Levels in Fishing Communities in the CARICOM Region

Under the CARICOM – Kingdom of Spain Cooperation Agreement a project – *Diagnostic Study to Determine Poverty Levels in Fishing Communities in the CARICOM Region*, valued at 300,000 Euros has been approved for financing, with the CARICOM Secretariat as Executing Agency and the CRFM Secretariat as Implementing Agency. Operationalisation of the project has begun with a Spanish Consulting Group – Empresa de Transformacion Agraria S.A. (TRAGSATEC) selected as the consultant to the project. The CRFM will oversee the work of the Spanish consultants.

5. Formulation of Master Plan on Sustainable Use of Fisheries Resources for Coastal Community Development in the Caribbean

Under the CARICOM – Japan Cooperation Agreement a US\$3.6 million three (3) years project “*Formulation of Master Plan on Sustainable Use of Fisheries Resources for Coastal Community Development in the Caribbean*” was approved in December 2008 for implementation as a major CRFM activity. JICA has contracted the services of ICNet Limited a consulting firm from Japan to implement the project jointly with the CRFM in accordance with the approved Scope of Work.

6. CRFM Annual Scientific Meeting

A proposal was submitted to CARICOM Secretariat to access donor (EU) funding for the CRFM Annual Scientific Meeting in 2008. The CRFM Secretariat obtained verbal approval from CARICOM Secretariat for partial funding for the 2008 Annual Scientific Meeting using EU resources. Unfortunately, funding was not realized from the CARICOM Secretariat.

In terms of regional networking efforts at the scientific level, representatives from UWI, IMA, NMFS SEFSC, the University of Miami, VIMS, and FAO participated in the Fourth Annual Scientific Meeting. Scientists from NMFS SEFSC, the University of Miami and VIMS, as well as a statistician from UWI provided direct assistance with fisheries evaluations that were conducted in 2008.

7. CRFM / UNU-FTP Stock Assessment and Advance Leadership Development Workshops

Two proposals were prepared and submitted to the Island Growth Initiative Fund established by the Government of Iceland in September 2008 to benefit Small Island developing States. The proposals included one for the development of an Advanced Leadership Development Workshop for Chief Fisheries Officers of CRFM Member States and another for a regional training programme in statistics and fish stock assessment for fisheries officers from Member States.

8. CLME Project

The CRFM Secretariat continued its collaboration with the GEF Funded Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project (CLME). The overall objective of the CLME project is sustainable management of the shared living marine resources of the Caribbean LME and adjacent areas through an integrated management approach that will meet WSSD targets for sustainable fisheries. The CRFM Secretariat will be responsible for implementation of the Large Pelagic and Flyingfish components of the CLME Project.

OUTPUT 100 MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT	
ACTIVITY 121 : General Administration- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	
Output:	CRFM (St. Vincent and the Grenadines) coordinating and implementing agreed activities
Activity Start:	1 April 2008
End:	31 March 2009
Activity Progress Report Summary	
Total Budget:	US\$37, 171
Spent:	US\$53,585
Balance:	(US\$16,414)
Will complete Activity within Total Budget: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Completion of Activity (Work plan): ahead <input type="checkbox"/> behind <input type="checkbox"/> on schedule <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Completion of Total Activity: ahead <input type="checkbox"/> behind <input type="checkbox"/> on schedule <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Percentage of total output achieved to date	

General Administration - St. Vincent and the Grenadines

The CRFM Secretariat, Eastern Caribbean Office in St. Vincent and the Grenadines continued to provide support for the implementation of technical and scientific activities approved in the Annual Work Plan and Budget, 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009.

OUTPUT 100 MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT

ACTIVITY 150: Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum

Output: Recommendations to the COTED; and approved Work Programme and Budget

Activity Start: 1 April 2008

End: 31 March 2009

Activity Progress Report Summary

Total Budget: US\$48,610

Spent: US\$96,536

Balance: (US\$47,927)

Will complete Activity within Total Budget: Yes ☒ No ☐

Completion of Activity (Work plan): ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒

Completion of Total Activity: ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒

Percentage of total output achieved to date

Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum

The Sixth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum was held 8 – 9 May 2008, Paramaribo, Suriname. The following major outputs were achieved:

- (i) A new Executive Committee of the Forum was elected. The Committee is comprised of the Heads of the National Fisheries Administration of:

- Suriname (Chairman)
- St. Lucia (Vice Chairman)
- Belize
- Guyana
- Turks and Caicos Islands

The meeting also agreed that the Heads of the Fisheries Divisions of Dominica and Montserrat would be invited to sit in at meetings of the Executive Committee.

- (ii) The CRFM Annual Work Plan and Budget, 1 April 2008 – 31 March 2009 was endorsed by the Forum and recommended to the Ministerial Council for approval.

- (iii) A Progress Report on the Status of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime was received

and discussed.

- (iv) The Forum approved the draft MOUs between the CRFM and the Dominican Republic and the CRFM and the United Nations University – Fisheries Training Programme and authorized the Secretariat to execute these agreements.
- (v) The Forum reviewed the Draft CRFM Operations Manual and provided comments and further guidance to the consultants engaged to assist with its preparation.

The Operations Manual for the CRFM was finalized and approved by the Ministerial Council of the CRFM in January 2009. The Manual contains five (5) volumes and is the result of sustained technical input by the Caribbean Center for Development Administration (CARICAD), reviews and refinements undertaken by management, The Caribbean Fisheries Forum and the Executive Committee of the Forum.

- (vi) The Forum reviewed the Draft CRFM Second Medium Term Plan and provided comments and further guidance to the consultant.

The Second Medium Term Plan (2008 – 2011) was approved by the Ministerial Council of the CRFM in January 2009. It defines the course of action to be followed by the CRFM during the period 2008 to 2011 and is based on the CRFM Strategic Plan 2003.

- (vii) Draft proposals for a Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing have been finalized and recommended by the Forum for approval by the Ministerial Council. The Ministerial Council at its First Meeting in January 2009 agreed to accept the Draft Declaration on IUU Fishing in principle, while recognizing the need for Member States to further consult with stakeholders at their respective national level. It is hoped that the draft Declaration will be approved in p.y. 2009 / 10.

Meetings of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum held its Eleventh Meeting (Paramaribo, Suriname, 5 – 6 May 2008), Twelfth Meeting (St. Lucia, 4 – 5 September 2008), and Thirteenth Meeting (Barbados, 8 – 9 December 2008). The meetings considered, *inter alia*, matters arising from the Tenth, Eleventh and Twelfth Meetings of the Executive Committee, and the Fifth and Sixth Meetings of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum, and their status of implementation. Such matters included the draft of CRFM Secretariat Annual Work Plan and Budget the 2008 / 09; the CRFM Operations Manual (update); the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime for CARICOM; and the Second CRFM Medium Term Plan.

OUTPUT 200 Advocacy, Policy and Planning

ACTIVITY 200: Advocacy Policy and Planning

Output: Promotion of the CRFM Secretariat and its achievements, the continuation of the formulation of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime, and the coordination of work plans and activities for implementation.

Activity Start: 1 April 2008

End: 31 March 2009

Activity Progress Report Summary

Total Budget: US\$156,104

Spent: US\$75,594

Balance: US\$80,510

Will complete Activity within Total Budget: Yes ☒ No ☐

Completion of Activity (Work plan): ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒

Completion of Total Activity: ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒

Percentage of total output achieved to date

WBS 200: Advocacy, Policy and Planning

Within the context of the Annual Work Plan and Budget, 2008 / 09, the CRFM Secretariat continued to support and enhanced the institutional capabilities of Member States in the area of policy formulation, with a focus on the development of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime as mandated by the CARICOM Heads of Government at their Fourteenth Inter-sessional Meeting.

With regards to advocacy, the emphasis was on projecting a positive image for the CRFM, its Secretariat, and programme activities as well as the Fisheries Departments and the Fisheries Sector of Member States. The focus of planning in this programme year is directed at monitoring the implementation of the Fisheries Department's Annual Work Plans to enhance synergies in their delivery and coherence with the regional Work Plan; finalization of the Second CRFM Medium Term Plan; and assistance to Member States, on request, in national project development, preparation and resource mobilization for the implementation of same.

Fisheries Master Plan for CARICOM

Background:

This project, to be funded by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), aims at developing a Master Plan for fishery resource development and management in the Region. The agreed components are: (1) Pelagic Resource Development and Management; (2) Aquaculture Development Policy Formulation; (3) Regional Fisheries Database Development; (4) Supporting Community-based Management (including sedentary resource management); and (5) Education and Training in the component fields in the CARICOM States.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

Under the CARICOM – Japan Cooperation Agreement a US\$3.6 million three (3) years project “*Formulation of Master Plan on Sustainable Use of Fisheries Resources for Coastal Community Development in the Caribbean,*” was approved in December 2008 for implementation as a major CRFM activity. JICA has contracted the services of ICNet Limited, a consulting firm from Japan, to implement the project jointly with the CRFM in accordance with the approved Scope of Work.

POLICY

Formulation of a Common Fisheries Policy and Regime (CFP&R)

Background:

The CRFM Secretariat continued to provide administrative support and technical leadership in the formulation of the CFP&R including identification and analysis of the legal, socio-economic and linkages issues, through a consultative and participatory approach.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- The 23rd Special Meeting of the COTED held in Jamaica in October 2007 requested the CARICOM Secretariat to provide legal opinions as to whether the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime, and the proposed Common Fisheries Zone are grounded in the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas, and to clarify whether the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime applied only to CARICOM Member States which are party to the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas or to CRFM Member States, given that not all Members of the CRFM are signatories to the Revised Treaty. The CARICOM Secretariat has researched these matters and has submitted a legal opinion.
- The First Meeting of the Ministerial Council of the CRFM was held in St. Vincent and the Grenadines on 16 January 2009, under the Chairmanship of the Hon. Montgomery Daniel, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. The Council considered the Conference of Heads of CARICOM States mandate, the Draft Common Fisheries Policy and Regime and a Legal Opinion provided by the Office of the General Counsel, CARISEC. The Council agreed that in relation to fulfilling the mandate set out by the Conference of CARICOM

Heads of Government at its Fourteenth Inter-sessional Meeting in 2003 to establish a Common Fisheries Policy and Regime the following approach would be taken:

- (i) The Common Fisheries Policy and Regime would be established sequentially establishing a Policy first, upon which the regime will be built;
- (ii) A Multi-disciplinary Technical Working Group (MTWG), consisting of expertise from fisheries, the legal section of the CARICOM and OECS Secretariats, Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Members of the CRFM, including representatives from Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago, should be established;
- (iii) The MTWG would be expected to review proposals from Member States, including those expressed in the statements by Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago, and in particular the proposal that the Policy should be developed separately from the Regime;
- (iv) The recommendations of the MTWG would be submitted to a Special Meeting of the CRFM Forum in April 2009 for consideration.
- (v) The outputs of the Special Forum Meeting in April 2009 would be considered by a Special Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council in May 2009;
- (vi) The recommendations from the Special Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council would be carried forward to a Regular Meeting of the COTED normally also held in May each year;
- (vii) The recommendations from the Meeting of the COTED would be submitted to the Meeting of Conference of Heads of Government, scheduled to be held in July 2009, for its endorsement.
- (viii) At the end of the period under review, (31 March 2009) the MTWG had already started its work and a work plan identifying the process towards addressing the other issues was in place.

Advocacy - Promoting the CRFM Secretariat

Background:

The activities planned are aimed at promoting greater public awareness of the programmes and activities of the CRFM Secretariat and highlighting its achievements.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- During the reporting period, the CRFM Secretariat prepared and distributed via e-mail, four (4) issues of the Fisherfolk Net Newsletter.

PLANNING

Background:

During the reporting period, CRFM Secretariat's technical staff prepared individual Quarterly Workplans to guide the implementation of activities as set out in the CRFM Secretariat Annual Workplan and Budget 2008 / 09. Additionally, Consultant, Dr. Claremont Kirton, UWI, Jamaica, continued to assist in the preparation of the Second Medium Term Plan for the CRFM. The draft Second Medium Term Plan was presented to the Executive Committee and the Forum at their meetings, 5 – 9 May 2008 in Suriname. The Forum provided comments on the draft Medium Term Plan, and agreed that Member States would provide further inputs to the Consultant to facilitate completion of the plan, by mid-June 2008. The draft Second Medium Term Plan was revised by the Consultant with these inputs, and was further reviewed by CRFM Secretariat at a Senior Management Meeting on 21 – 22 August 2008, Belize.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- The Second Medium Term Plan (2008 – 2011) was approved by the Ministerial Council of the CRFM in January 2009. It defines the course of action to be followed by the CRFM during the period 2008 to 2011 and is based on the CRFM Strategic Plan 2003.

The activities of MTP – 2 are centred around nine programme areas:

1. Research and Data Analysis for Policy Formulation and Decision Making
 2. Preparation for Global Competitiveness
 3. Resource Assessment and Management
 4. Human Resource Development and Institutional Strengthening
 5. Strengthening of Fishers Organisations and Improved Community Participation
 6. Promotion of the Expansion and Utilisation of Un-utilised and Underutilized Aquatic Resources
 7. Development and Promotion of Aquaculture
 8. Development and Promotion of Risk Reduction Programmes for Fishers
 9. Development and Promotion of Mechanisms for Prevention and Resolution of Conflicts.
- The CRFM Secretariat refined the draft CRFM Secretariat Annual Work Plan 2008 / 09 in consultation with the Executive Committee at its Eleventh Meeting, 5 – 6 May 2008 and the Forum Meeting, 8 – 9 May 2008 in Suriname. This draft CRFM Secretariat Annual Work Plan was developed against the background of the new Second Medium Term Plan; critical activities from the First Medium Term Plan that are to be completed during 2008 / 09 and the expected start-up, in 2008 / 09, of the Japanese funded Project, Formulation of Master Plan on Sustainable Use of Fisheries Resources for Coastal Community Development in the Caribbean and the EU funded Programme for Strengthening Fisheries Management in ACP Countries (ACP Fish II).
 - Individual staff Work Plans for the period 1 June 2008 - 31 August 2008 were prepared.

- Implementation (Quarterly) reports for staff for the period 1 April – 30 June 2008 were also prepared.

OUTPUT 300 FISHERIES STATISTICS AND INFORMATION

ACTIVITY 300: Fisheries Statistics and Information

Output: Information available for the management of Pelagic and Reef Species, Shrimp and Groundfish Species and Lobster and Conch Fisheries

Activity Start: 1 April 2008

End: 31 March 2009

Activity Progress Report Summary

Activity Budget

Total Budget: US\$98,257 Spent: US\$85,139

Balance: US\$13,118

Will complete Activity within Total Budget: Yes ☒ No ☐

Completion of Activity (Work plan): ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒
 Completion of Total Activity: ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒
 Percentage of total output achieved to date.

WBS 300: FISHERIES STATISTICS AND INFORMATION PROGRAMME

The Research Graduate, Statistics and Information, has been assigned responsibility for this programme area, and has been providing CARIFIS technical and none technical assistance and CARIFIS training to Member States. This responsibility also included assisting in the establishment, management and maintenance of relevant CRFM databases (e.g. CARIFIS, and any CRFM regional database).

The CRFM Secretariat continued to provide technical support in the implementation of CARIFIS at the country level, in areas such as the transfer of the legacy databases from TIP and LRS to CARIFIS, training in querying and reporting and debugging of the software.

The Secretariat also provided technical assistance to Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat and St. Lucia to review the data collection and management systems (including CARIFIS) for their respective marine fisheries.

Fisheries Master Plan for CARICOM - Regional Data Base:

Background:

This Project, to be funded by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and implemented by the CRFM Secretariat aims at developing a master plan for fishery resource development and management in the Region (especially for the small-scale sub-sectors within the EEZ). During its implementation, a baseline study to review and assess the current national and regional fisheries information systems will be done, with the findings of the study being used to make recommendations for improving national fisheries information systems and drafting a policy framework for establishing a regional fisheries database. The inter-linked components are as follows: Pelagic Fisheries Development and Management; Community Based Fisheries Resource Management; Regional Fisheries Database Development and Aquaculture Development.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- A Team comprising of Dr. Tadaomi Nakai, (Japanese representative at the CARICOM Secretariat), Mr. Yukio Yokoi, Deputy Director General / Group Director for Group II, Rural Development Department, and Mr. Takafumi Toshirara, JICA representative visited the CRFM Secretariat offices in St. Vincent and the Grenadines on 26 June 2008, where they discussed the use of the data management and reporting software CARIFIS. The CRFM Secretariat provided the Japanese with a demonstration of the CARIFIS Programme.
- The Scope of Work for this project was signed in December 2008 and the project commenced in April 2009.
- Preparations were made at the Secretariat level for the initiation of this project. Preparations included (1) the updating of the CARIFIS Matrix; the CARIFIS Matrix outlines the various interventions and assistance offered to each country, and gives a overall status of CARIFIS implementation in each country, (2) examination of documentation (Data Reviews etc.) on maintenance and management of fisheries information systems in Member States (3) investigation of the national data collection systems by the Research Graduate, Statistics and Information during national missions.

Review the Data Collection and Management Systems of the Marine Fisheries of Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat and St. Lucia

Background:

In an effort to provide information for management and decision-making on a continuous basis, the CRFM Secretariat provided assistance to the Fisheries Divisions of Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat and St. Lucia to review and refine their data collection systems to collect catch, effort, biological, economic, social and environmental data in order to permit qualitative and quantitative evaluation of the impact of their marine capture fisheries on the population structure, including estimates of fishing mortality, current abundance and status of exploitation, trends in recruitment and projected future

abundance, and allowable catch under given management regimes.

The aims of this activity were to:

- review the data (catch, effort, biological, economic, social and environmental) collection, and management systems of Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat and St. Lucia and make recommendations for refinement.
- review the type of economic data being collected and advise on the additional data to be collected in order to monitor the performance of the fleets in the respective fisheries as well as provide information for management.
- clearly identify and characterize the strengths and weaknesses of the current data management system at the different levels (field sampling, data management, analysis and reporting).

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

During the April 2008 to March 2009 period, the Secretariat provided technical assistance to Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat and St. Lucia to review the data collection and management systems (including CARIFIS) for their respective marine fisheries.

- In late March and April 2008, the Consultant, Dr. Paul Medley, undertook field missions to Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat and St. Lucia to implement the Consultancy to review the Data Collection and Management Systems for the Marine Fisheries in these countries.
- Technical assistance on the implementation of CARIFIS was also provided to these countries during the missions.
- The Draft Reports for Grenada Guyana Montserrat and St. Lucia were submitted by the Consultant and reviewed by the Secretariat.
- The Reports on the Review of the Data Collection and Management Systems of the Marine Fisheries for St. Lucia, Grenada, Guyana, and Montserrat were sent to the country.

Caribbean Fisheries Information System (CARIFIS)

In 2003, the CRFM in collaboration with the FAO organized and convened a Regional Fisheries Statistics and Data Management Workshop, from 10 – 22 March 2003, in Barbados. The Workshop included training in sample based fisheries survey methods, use of the new CARIFIS Database Programme, and training in the collection and analysis of social and economic data. At the Workshop, the participants made recommendations for the continued development and implementation of CARIFIS in the member states, setting as startup date 31 January 2004. In programme years 2005 / 06, 2006 / 07 and 2007 / 08 based on the recommendations from the 2003 Workshop as well as in keeping with Member States requests the CRFM Secretariat continued to provide technical assistance and training to the Member States. In programme year 2008 / 09 the CRFM Secretariat continued to provide technical assistance and training to the Member States.

The aim of this activity is to continue to provide technical support and training to the staff of fisheries departments in Member States in order to implement CARIFIS at the country level.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- During the period thirteen (13) Member States were contacted to determine the state of implementation of the CARIFIS program and the CRFM Secretariat provided technical assistance to nine (9) of these Member States towards CARIFIS implementation. It was decided that national CARIFIS training workshops which would (a) facilitate the training of more staff members at the national levels and (b) provide CARIFIS technical assistance, and start up of CARIFIS use in the Member States, would be facilitated by the Research Graduate, Statistics and Information.
- The nine (9) Member States provided with ad hoc assistance towards the implementation of CARIFIS during the period were: Anguilla, Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago.
- Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat and St. Lucia were provided with technical assistance towards the implementation of CARIFIS during the field missions of the consultant, Dr. Paul Medley, to Review the Data Collection and Management Systems for the Marine Fisheries in the respective countries. Recommendations regarding the way forward with CARIFIS were made to the respective countries.
- The legacy TIP and LRS data of St. Lucia was prepared and transferred to CARIFIS. These tasks were especially complex and difficult, and therefore represent significant progress with CARIFIS for St. Lucia.
- Another significant achievement was the start up of CARIFIS use in Montserrat.
- Missions were also undertaken by the Research Graduate, Statistics and Information to St. Kitts and Nevis, March 1-5, 2009 and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, 4 – 5 February and 25 - 26, 2009, to conduct National CARIFIS Training Workshops in data entry and basic querying and reporting using CARIFIS and to identify the hindrances to the successful implementation of CARIFIS at the country levels.
- During the national missions the Research Graduate, Statistics and Information also provided resources and technical assistance. The CARIFIS training, resources and technical assistance provided to St. Kitts and Nevis and St. Vincent and the Grenadines resulted in CARIFIS being fully functional in both countries.
- Eight staff members were trained from St. Kitts and Nevis (six fully trained in data entry, querying and reporting and two trained in data entry only), and two staff members were trained from St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
- Anguilla and Trinidad and Tobago were provided with updated CARIFIS software and CARIFIS Training CD's respectively. Both countries have installed the respective software and have moved forward with CARIFIS implementation.

- The various issues faced by Belize when using CARIFIS have been outlined in a document entitled: “Problems found in executing some tasks when using Caribbean Fisheries Information System (CARIFIS version1.1) in Belize,” (Carcamo, 2008). The issues were addressed in a return document entitled: “Answers to some of the problems found in executing tasks when using Caribbean Fisheries Information System (CARIFIS version1.1) in Belize”. The document is being reviewed by the Belize Fisheries Division.

Monitoring and Provision of Technical Assistance (Trainers and Support):

This activity is designed to strengthen the data collection and management capabilities of the CRFM countries through the development of training material for improving the collection of fisheries data, and the continued implementation of CARIFIS in the Member States.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- The CRFM Secretariat provided technical assistance to, Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat and St. Lucia on the implementation of CARIFIS. Please see above-mentioned activities to Review the Data Collection and Management Systems for the Marine Fisheries in Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat and St. Lucia.
- The CRFM Secretariat visited St. Vincent and the Grenadines Fisheries Division, 4 – 5 February 2009, to provide technical assistance re: data collection methods, storage etc. and specifically concerning TIP, LRS, and CARIFIS as used by St. Vincent and the Grenadines and resolve the problems being experienced in these areas. Recommendations coming out of this mission led to a CARIFIS training workshop being organized for St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
- A number of Member States were also provided with resources to facilitate continued implementation of CARIFIS. These are: (i) Microsoft Visual FoxPro 6.0 (which was installed on the St. Vincent and the Grenadines’ database desktop to facilitate technical support) (ii) copies of the CARIFIS Training CD’s have been provided to St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St Kitts and Nevis and Trinidad and Tobago and (iii) copies of the latest CARIFIS database, version 1.2. were sent to Anguilla and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

OUTPUT 400 FISHERIES RESEARCH AND RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

ACTIVITY 400: Fisheries Research and Resource Assessment

Output: Information available for the management of Pelagic and Reef Species, Shrimp and Groundfish Species and Lobster and Conch Fisheries

Activity Start: 1 April 2008

End: 31 March 2009

Activity Progress Report Summary

Activity Budget

Total Budget: US\$285,426

Spent: US\$245,739

Balance: US\$39,687

Will complete Activity within Total Budget: Yes ☒ No ☐

Completion of Activity (Work plan): ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒
Completion of Total Activity: ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒
Percentage of total output achieved to date.

WBS 400: FISHERIES RESEARCH AND RESOURCE ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME

Formal resource assessment tasks are usually conducted largely through the activities of CRFM regional resource working groups. The CRFM resource working groups, under the guidance of selected Chairpersons, have been responsible for agreed inter-sessional activities, and for preparations for the Fourth Annual Scientific Meeting. The CRFM resource working groups have covered variable tasks in respect of data analysis, research, assessment, and provision of management advice on fisheries targeting the following range of fisheries resources: large pelagic fish; small coastal pelagic fish; reef and slope fish; shrimp and groundfish, conch and lobster.

The Research and Resource Assessment Programme has continued to include a component for provision of technical support at ICCAT and other international fora, as required.

Development and Implementation of Mechanisms for the Management of Shared Resources:

Background:

Under the UN Convention on Fish Stocks (1995) all countries are obliged either to participate in activities of an existing competent organization that has been established to manage particular shared marine resources, or where one does not exist, to establish one. This is needed to ensure that the region's concerns are incorporated into the global decision-making process and that member countries' rights are protected. Within the Caribbean region, shared resources are being exploited by CRFM and non-CRFM countries alike, and the sustainable exploitation of these resources are threatened unless mechanisms for collaboration or joint management are put into place.

Objective:

The aim of the research component of this activity has been to provide technical information on resource distribution and status, to assist regional coordination in management planning and implementation especially in the case of shared resources.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- The Report of the Fourth Annual Scientific Meeting (2008) has been finalized and published in electronic format.
- Reports on the 2008 ICCAT SCRS and Commission meetings have been made available to CRFM States.
- Regional brief on ICCAT has been prepared and made available to CRFM States

Participation in ICCAT

Provision of Technical Support at Regional and International Management Fora

Background:

Acknowledging the establishment, role, and objectives of ICCAT, other relevant regional and international fisheries bodies and international management fora, CRFM countries have continued their efforts to enhance participation in the activities of these organizations and to be directly involved in the management process. In 2008 - 09, the activity continued to include the provision of CRFM technical (statistics, research and assessment) support to countries on relevant issues of shared concern. This activity permits the CRFM Secretariat to coordinate planning and development of both national and regional positions on issues ranging from statistics to management, which require knowledge and understanding of the interpretation of resource biology and status, as well as development of legal arguments.

Objectives:

- (i) To provide technical support to countries that are participating in ICCAT activities and which are need to fulfill national obligations in respect of in statistics, research, assessment, and management.
- (ii) To coordinate planning and development of both national and regional positions on issues ranging from statistics to management, but which require knowledge and understanding of the interpretation of resource biology and status.
- (iii) To participate in those activities of international fora, in observer capacity, in cases where it is warranted.
- (iv) During PY 2008 / 09, collaborate with ICCAT to convene the first ICCAT Data Training Workshop in the CARICOM region

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- Completed PY2008 - 09 annual CARICOM report to ICCAT on behalf of Grenada, St. Lucia, and Dominica.
- Assisted countries with handling of ICCAT issues, such as statistics, reporting, scientific contributions, and responding to management queries made by the ICCAT Commission.
- Participated in 2008 annual meetings of ICCAT SCRS and the ICCAT Commission.
- Completed reports on 2008 annual ICCAT SCRS and Commission meetings for circulation to CRFM Member States.
- Prepared regional brief on ICCAT and circulated to countries for reviewing national positions regarding levels of participation in ICCAT.
- Collaborated with ICCAT to convene the first ICCAT Data Training Workshop in the CARICOM region.
- Report of first ICCAT Data Training Workshop in the CARICOM region completed and available in electronic format on the ICCAT website

Research**1) Assess the Potential for Developing or Expanding Large Pelagic Fisheries:****Background:**

The sustainable development and management of large pelagic fisheries have been identified as priority areas by CARICOM Member States through the COTED as well as by the National Governments through their fisheries development and management plans and policy papers.

As prescribed by the various international agreements, Caribbean countries need to develop their knowledge of these offshore pelagic and other under-utilized resources, to ensure responsible and successful sustainable development and management of the relevant fisheries. Given that many of these resources are shared, countries have committed to regional coordination of statistics, research and management.

Objectives:

- (i) To develop knowledge base of countries on offshore pelagic and underutilized resources.
- (ii) To promote responsible and sustainable resource utilization.
- (iii) To increase development within the sector, and contribute to socio economic well being of industry stakeholders.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- The CRFM - JICA project agreement document has been finalized, and project implementation commenced in April 2009. The baseline survey on large pelagics will be undertaken during the latter half of 2009.

2) CRFM Regional Queen Conch Research Programme (CRP):

Background:

This project has been designed to rehabilitate and strengthen the management of the Queen Conch, *Strombus gigas*, resources in the region by strengthening regional management capability and empowering fisheries divisions to carry out their tasks through training, systems improvements, and provision of financial and technical assistance. The overall long-term goal of this project is to ensure sustainable utilization of queen conch resources in the CARIFORUM region through greater networking, research, capacity building and improved management to rehabilitate and protect the stocks and ensure sustainability of the fisheries.

Objectives:

The objectives of the project are as follows:

- (i) To strengthen the region's data collection and management systems and maintain a regional database on the conch fisheries.
- (ii) To identify the patterns of distribution, abundance and densities of the queen conch.
- (iii) To develop advice for strengthened management of queen conch.
- (v) To create models and plans for the effective management of the stocks.

- (vi) To broaden stakeholder and general public awareness of the status of queen conch stocks and engender support for their sustainable management.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- Activity remains on hold, pending acquisition of donor funding.

3) Rehabilitation and Management of the Queen Conch - ad hoc study

Background:

This activity has been designed to rehabilitate and strengthen the management of the queen conch (*Strombus gigas*) resources in the region by: strengthening management capability through training in research, assessment and management methods; conducting visual surveys to evaluate the present status of the queen conch resources, and; providing financial and technical assistance. The overall long-term goal of this project is to ensure sustainable utilization of queen conch resources in the CARIFORUM Region through greater networking, research, capacity building and improved management to rehabilitate and protect the stocks.

In 2005 - 06, the Office of Protected Resources (USA) supported the CRFM's work in the Dominican Republic, which, of the countries currently prohibited by CITES from exporting queen conch, was most likely to benefit from early work, such as stock assessment surveys. This support enabled CRFM to assist this country to follow up on the recommendations made by CITES.

To date, the field work has been completed and data have been computerized.

Objectives:

The objectives of this project are as follows:

- (i) To gather fisheries-independent data on the queen conch resources in the Dominican Republic through the conduct of underwater surveys on the main fishing grounds to determine the status of the stocks.
- (ii) To determine size frequency distribution and maturity profile of the exploited populations, and the location of any juvenile beds.
- (iii) To organize consultations with stakeholders including government officials, fishermen and processors and exporters to discuss the stock status and build support for improved conservation and management.
- (iv) To prepare queen conch management plans for the Dominican Republic.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- Ms. Mateo of the Dominican Republic has completed a preliminary report of sampling at Parque del Este.

4) Study to improve the information and analytical base for integrating fishery performance indicators into the formulation of management advice

Key commercial fisheries in the Caribbean OTs, such as those targeting queen conch (*Strombus gigas*), and Caribbean spiny lobster (*Panulirus argus*), ideally need to measure their ‘*sustainable management and development*’ performance levels not only in respect of conserving the health of the resource and realizing the maximum possible economic benefits, but also with regard to minimizing the negative ecological and environmental impacts of various and new fishing methods, and to achieving agreed levels of equity for social welfare and food security.

The proposed study seeks to apply suitable decision support tools to integrate the full range of fishery performance data and information, including information on trade and global environmental change, to aid the development of more comprehensive and integrated fishery management approaches.

Objectives:

The purpose of the project is to develop and customize the application of available decision support tools, such as Multiple Criteria Analysis (MCA), capable of evaluating the performance of fisheries with regard to the full range of agreed management objectives. In particular, the proposed study focuses on developing the methodology, initially for selected commercially important queen conch fisheries, and for which management planning and decision-making also need to take into account issues at the national, regional, and international scales, e.g. international trade and global environmental change.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- Proposal review has been completed. A second revision of the proposal is in progress, and consultant has to be identified in the next quarter.

Resource Assessment:

1) Fishery Assessment and Method Meetings:

Background:

Many fisheries resources of major importance in the Caribbean region have distributions that extend beyond national boundaries, and hence require coordinated action in respect of their assessment and management.

To facilitate informed coordinated management planning and implementation, the CRFM Fisheries Resource Working Groups {CRFM Shrimp and Groundfish Fisheries Resource Working Group

(SGWG), CRFM Conch and Lobster Resource Working Group (CLWG), CRFM Large Pelagic Fisheries Resource Working Group (LPWG), CRFM Reef and Slope Fisheries Resource Working Group (RSWG), and CRFM Small Coastal Pelagic Fisheries Resource Working Group (SCPWG)} handle a range of research and assessment activities, and are responsible for developing management recommendations based on the results of fisheries assessment analyses. A CRFM ad hoc Working Group on Methods, established and active during 2005 - 2007, investigated the suitability of various available assessment methods for application to CRFM fisheries management situations. The ad hoc Working Group on Methods reported to the Resource Working Groups during the CRFM Annual Scientific Meetings.

The CRFM Annual Scientific Meetings are joint meetings of the CRFM Fisheries Resource Working Groups, and ensure sharing of knowledge and expertise among the Working Groups. The Annual Scientific Meetings also facilitate wider regional review and consultation concerning the interpretation of assessment results. By this means, fisheries assessments and management recommendations are coordinated and updated at the regional level, for presentation to the Caribbean Fisheries Forum and the Ministerial Council on an annual basis.

Objectives:

- (i) To use the most recent and available data to assess, by whatever technical approach or approaches are most appropriate, the status of fishery resources exploited by CRFM countries.
- (ii) To discuss, and interpret the results of the assessments and other relevant quantitative analyses of the data, incorporating local intimate knowledge and understanding of the fisheries concerned.
- (iii) To make recommendations for management of the fisheries investigated, considering any significant social and economic implications of the management strategies that would emerge from such recommendations.
- (iv) To make recommendations for improvements in statistics, and to identify future research and fisheries assessment needs.
- (v) To develop the skills of national staff in fisheries assessment analyses and report preparation.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- Convened CRFM's Fourth Annual Scientific Meeting during which nine fisheries were evaluated.
- The Fourth Annual Scientific Meeting adopted the Report of the Third Meeting of the CRFM ad hoc Working Group on Methods.
- The Fourth Annual Scientific Meeting agreed to establish a Working Group on Data, Methods and Training

- Finalized the report of the Fourth Annual Scientific Meeting, which is now available in electronic format.

2) CRFM Reef and Slope Fisheries Working Group (CRFM RSWG)

In the Caribbean region, reef and slope fisheries are multi-gear, multi-species fisheries and are relatively diverse and complex. It is generally assumed that reef and slope fish resources do not undergo large-scale movements, and can be managed at the local or country level. However, islands sharing a common shelf may also be sharing the same reef and slope fish stocks.

Objectives:

To develop a technical and information base for informing the management and development of reef and slope fisheries within the CRFM region. To facilitate this, there is a need for a collective effort to address shared issues pertaining to statistics, research, stock assessment methods and development of management advice. The CRFM Reef and Slope Fish Resource Working Group (CRFM RSWG) was established for this purpose, and its activities continued to be coordinated by the Secretariat in 2008 - 09.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- Completion of reef fishery analyses for Turks and Caicos Islands and St. Kitts and Nevis and the provision of management advice.
- Preparations by Montserrat for assessment of queen triggerfish and red hind fisheries during Fifth Annual Scientific Meeting.

3) CRFM Large Pelagic Fisheries Working Group (CRFM LPWG)

Within the Caribbean region, the CRFM provides a regional arrangement for coordinating assessment and management of those large pelagic resources, such as dolphinfish, king mackerel and wahoo that can be handled at the regional level.

Objectives:

To develop a technical and information base for informing the management and development of large pelagic fisheries within the CRFM region. To facilitate this, there is a need for a coordinated effort to address shared issues pertaining to statistics, research, stock assessment methods and development of management advice. The CRFM Large Pelagic Fish Resources Working Group (CRFM LPWG) was established for this purpose, and its activities continued to be coordinated by the Secretariat in 2008 - 09.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- Evaluation of crevalle jack (*Caranx hippos*) fishery of Trinidad and Tobago and the

provision of fishery management advice.

- Development of short-medium term work plan for address priority assessment needs for large pelagic fish resources.
- Proposal to ICCAT for CRFM-ICCAT joint meeting in 2010, and consideration by ICCAT SCRS of this request.
- Completion of first ICCAT Data Training Workshop in CARICOM region for CRFM Small Coastal Pelagic Fisheries Working Group (CRFM SCPWG)

Small coastal pelagic fish resources support substantial fisheries throughout the Caribbean region, sometimes accounting for 40% or more of the total reported national fish landings. The small coastal pelagic fisheries can employ large numbers of the populations in some small island and coastal states, and hence are of paramount importance in contributing to the social and economic stability of the countries involved. The movement and distribution of stocks of small coastal pelagic fish resources within the Caribbean are not well understood, although it is very likely that islands sharing a common shelf are fishing the same stocks.

Objectives:

To develop a technical and information base for informing the management and development of small coastal pelagic fisheries within the CRFM region. To facilitate this, there is a need for a coordinated effort to address shared issues pertaining to statistics, research, stock assessment methods and development of management advice. The CRFM Small Coastal Pelagic Fish Resources Working Group (CRFM SCPWG) was established for this purpose, and its activities continued to be coordinated by the Secretariat in 2008 / 09.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- Commenced preparations for assisting St. Vincent and the Grenadines with improving data collection on the small coastal pelagic fishery and with a socio-economic study of this fishery.

5) CRFM Shrimp and Groundfish Fisheries Working Group (CRFM SGWG) Objectives

To develop a technical and information base for informing the management and development of shrimp and groundfish fisheries within the CRFM region. To facilitate this, there is a need for a coordinated effort to address shared issues pertaining to statistics, research, stock assessment methods and development of management advice. The CRFM Shrimp and Groundfish Resources Working Group (CRFM SGWG) was established for this purpose, and its activities continued to be coordinated by the Secretariat in p.y. 2008 - 09.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- Completed Atlantic seabob (*Xiphopenaeus kroyeri*) fishery assessments and the provision of fishery management advice for Guyana and Suriname.
- Completed whitemouth croaker (*Micropogonias furnieri*) fishery analysis and the provision of fishery management advice for Trinidad and Tobago.
- Provided technical support to Guyana fisheries staff for development of the agenda for a proposed inter-sessional stakeholder consultation to discuss findings of the 2008 scientific meeting and the way forward.
- Requested inputs from Guyana regarding formulation of proposal to implement study of seabob biology.

6) CRFM Conch and Lobster Fisheries Working Group (CRFM CLWG)

The spiny lobster and the queen conch are considered to be one of the most economically important fisheries resources in the CARICOM region, due to local consumption rates and as sources of foreign currency. In the last 30 years, the overall harvest of conch has increased substantially, largely driven by international export, population growth and increasing tourism in the Caribbean region.

Objectives:

To develop a technical and information base for informing the management and development of conch and lobster fisheries within the CRFM region. To facilitate this, there is a need for a coordinated effort to address shared issues pertaining to statistics, research, stock assessment methods and development of management advice. The CRFM Conch and Lobster Resources Working Group (CRFM CLWG) was established for this purpose, and its activities will continue to be coordinated by the Secretariat in programme year 2008 / 09.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- Completed evaluations/assessments of the spiny lobster (*Panulirus argus*) fisheries of The Bahamas and Jamaica and the queen conch (*Strombus gigas*) fishery of St. Lucia, and the provision of management advice to these countries.
- Continued inter-sessional assistance to St. Vincent and the Grenadines in planning and implementing visual surveys for the country's spiny lobster and queen conch resources.
- Continued ERAEF study of spiny lobster fishery of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
- Completed study of social and economic performance indicators for the spiny lobster fishery of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

OUTPUT 500 FISHERIES RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT	
ACTIVITY 500: Fisheries Resource Management and Development	
Output:	Improved national fishery management policies and plans with inputs from principal stakeholders
Activity Start: 1 April 2008	End: 31 March 2009
Activity Progress Report Summary	
Total Budget: US\$192,660	Spent: US\$126,927
Balance: US\$65,733	
Will complete Activity within Total Budget: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Completion of Activity (Work plan):	ahead <input type="checkbox"/> behind <input type="checkbox"/> on schedule <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Completion of Total Activity:	ahead <input type="checkbox"/> behind <input type="checkbox"/> on schedule <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Percentage of total output achieved to date	

WBS 500: FISHERIES RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME:

This Programme provides technical assistance to Member States in the areas of fisheries management planning, using a participatory and multidisciplinary approach; monitoring control and surveillance (MCS); quality assurance and safety; organizational development of fisher folk organizations for improved participation in the fisheries management process; and human resource development in fisheries and related fields. It is also involved in the development of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime for CARICOM.

501.1 Provision of Technical Support at Regional and International Fora (CITES and WECAFC)

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) works by subjecting international trade in specimens of selected species to certain controls, with species covered being listed in three Appendices, according to the degree of protection they need. These Appendices are as follows:

Appendix I include species threatened with extinction. Trade in specimens of these species is permitted only in exceptional circumstances.

Appendix II includes species not necessarily threatened with extinction, but in which trade must be controlled in order to avoid utilization incompatible with their survival.

Appendix III contains species that are protected in at least one country, which has asked other CITES Parties for assistance in controlling the trade (<http://www.cites.org/eng/disc/how.shtml>).

Recognising the impact of the listing of the queen conch (*Strombus gigas*) on Appendix II of CITES on the management and development of the queen conch fisheries in the Caribbean and the ever increasing influence of this Convention on the trade in fish and fish products from the region and the likely effects on sustainable fisheries development, the Caribbean Fisheries Forum decided that the CRFM Secretariat must seek observer status with the CITES Secretariat and participate in meetings of the Conference of the Parties (COP), etc. in order to provide technical advice on fisheries matters to Member States as well as play a coordinating role in the determination of positions on fisheries related issues. Recent and ongoing discussions at CITES regarding the listing of other commercially important species of fish such as sharks, lobster and bluefin tuna support the case for closer monitoring and participation of the region in the work of CITES.

The general objective of WECAFC is to promote the effective conservation, management and development of the living marine resources of the WECAFC region in accordance with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and address common problems of fisheries management and development faced by Members of the Commission. The main functions and responsibilities of the Commission are:

- to contribute to improved governance through institutional arrangements that encourage cooperation amongst members;
- to assist its members in implementing relevant international fisheries instruments, in particular the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and its related International Plans of Action;
- to promote, coordinate and, as appropriate, undertake the collection, exchange and dissemination of statistical, biological, environmental and socio-economic data and other marine fishery information as well as its analysis or study;
- to promote, coordinate and, as appropriate, strengthen the development of institutional capacity and human resources, particularly through education, training and extension activities in the areas of competence of the Commission;
- to promote and facilitate harmonizing of relevant national laws and regulations, and compatibility of conservation and management measures;

- to assist its Members in and facilitate, as appropriate and upon their request, the conservation, management and development of transboundary and straddling stocks under their respective national jurisdictions;
- to seek funds and other resources to ensure the long-term operations of the Commission and establish, as appropriate, a trust fund for voluntary contributions to this end; and
- to serve as a conduit of independent funding to its members for initiatives related to conservation, management and development of the living resources in the area of competence of the Commission (<http://www.fao.org/fishery/rfb/wecafc>).

Recognising the importance of this RFB to the improvement of fisheries governance and management at the regional and sub-regional levels as well as its technical competence to advise on fisheries and related matters being raised at CITES, WTO, etc., the CRFM has been participating in the Commission and other WECAFC meetings and providing briefs to Member States on agenda items. The CRFM Secretariat has also been partnering with WECAFC in the convening of meetings on fisheries management and development.

The objective of this exercise is to provide technical advice to Member States as well as play a coordinating role in the determination of positions on fisheries and related matters at CITES and WECAFC fora.

Highlights of Achievement during the Reporting Period

During the reporting period the Secretariat finalized the updating of the List of CITES National Focal Points with assistance from Member States; monitored CITES email notifications and liaised with the Chief Fisheries Officer, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Mr. Raymond Ryan, as regional representative on the Standing Committee.

The Secretariat participated in the FAO Global Conference on Small Scale Fisheries: Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries – Bringing together responsible fisheries and social development, in Thailand, from 13 – 17 October 2008. At this Conference, the Secretariat's representative, Mr. Terrence Phillips, Programme Manager, Fisheries Management and Development, served on the panel addressing *Regional Initiatives*. He took part in the Thirteenth Session of the WECAFC and the Tenth Session of the WECAFC Lesser Antilles Committee, in Colombia, from 21 – 24 October 2008.

The Secretariat participated in the Fifth UN-CARICOM General Meeting held in February 2009 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The meeting considered, among others, ongoing efforts to protect the Caribbean Sea and promote the sustainable use of fisheries, improved ocean governance and maritime delimitation. The meeting heard a request for assistance on a common fisheries policy; expansion of aquaculture; fisheries information management; research, training and development; and support for resource management for marine species, especially the commercially important queen conch (*Strombus gigas*) and spiny lobster (*Panulirus argus*) species. The need for increased knowledge and understanding of existing multilateral environment agreements that can be used to support sustainable development and conservation of fisheries and marine ecosystems was

identified. A further call was made for support to prepare a plan for the implementation of the 2009 Caribbean ministerial declaration on illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the Caribbean.

The Secretariat was also represented at the FAO Fourth Annual Meeting on the National Medium Term Priority Frameworks (NMTPFs), from 2 - 6 March 2009, in Barbados. The objectives of the Meeting were to: prepare NMTPFs using FAO templates and tools; prepare a Sub-regional Programme using FAO templates and tools; and share perspectives on successful strategies for the development of agriculture and food security in the Caribbean.

Formulation of a Common Fisheries Policy and Regime

The decision for the elaboration of a Common Fisheries Regime for CARICOM countries was made at the Fourteenth Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government in Trinidad and Tobago, 14 - 15 February 2003. The COTED, following the inaugural Meeting of CRFM in March 2003, determined that given CRFM's specialised mandate and competence in fisheries, it was in a position to provide regional leadership with regard to the directive of the Heads of Government to develop a Common Fisheries Regime. Since then, the CRFM and CARICOM Secretariats have spearheaded the preparation of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime (CFP&R) through a consultative process involving a series of studies, consultations among stakeholders, and regional meetings involving officials of Member States and regional experts in fisheries, law and marine policy.

The Draft CFP&R, a policy instrument, sets out the vision and goal to be achieved in respect of fisheries and other living aquatic resources, including the desired improvements in social and economic conditions, and the desired targets in respect of conservation and protection of the fish stocks and associated ecosystems. It also sets out the basic principles and rules to be followed to ensure good governance, fairness, and equity in utilization and management of the resources. Finally the key institutional arrangements for planning and decision making, administration of the regime and dispute resolution are provided for. It is an instrument for transforming the fisheries sector to ensure a better, more secure future for present and future generations.

In addition to the above, the Nineteenth Meeting of the COTED in 2005 endorsed the establishment of an ad hoc Legal Working Group and a Socio-economic and Linkage Issues Working Group to undertake further research to inform the elaboration of the draft agreement for the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime. Subsequently, the CARICOM and CRFM Secretariats retained the service of a legal expert (Dr. Barton Scotland) to review and make refinements to the Draft Agreement in order to expedite its completion. The legal expert submitted the Revised Draft Agreement to a meeting of the Expanded Legal Working Group during August 2007 in Barbados, with the output of this meeting being submitted to a Special Meeting of the CRFM Forum in Guyana for review and comments. At this Forum, some Member States expressed concerns about such matters as:

- (i) The Common Fisheries Zone (CFZ);
- (ii) Access to the Zone (The Coastal State and Other States);
- (iii) Management of the Zone (Role of the CRFM, as the Implementing Agency); and

(iv) Membership of the CFP&R.

These concerns were brought to the attention of the Twenty Third Special Meeting of COTED, during which the CARICOM Secretariat was requested to provide a legal opinion on whether the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime, and the proposed Common Fisheries Zone are grounded in the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas; and to clarify by way of legal opinion, whether the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime, and the proposed Common Fisheries Zone, apply only to CARICOM Member States which are party to the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas or to CRFM Member States, given that not all Members of the CRFM are signatories to the Revised Treaty.

In response to a letter of 2 November 2007 from the Minister of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries, Suriname, to the Secretary General of CARICOM concerning the elaboration of the CFP&R, a CARISEC / CRFM Team undertook a mission to Suriname in February 2008 to discuss the issues raised. A Mission report was prepared and circulated.

Highlights of Achievement during the Reporting Period

- The May 2008 Forum Meeting in Suriname was updated on matters relating to the elaboration of the CFP&R. The Meeting of COTED in October 2008 deferred consideration of the matters raised at the Twenty Third Special Meeting of COTED as they were going to be addressed by the Meeting of the Ministerial Council of the CRFM in January 2009.
- On 16 January 2009, following on a submission by the CRFM Secretariat on the status of the CFP&R; the provision of legal opinions by CARISEC as requested by the Twenty Third Special Meeting of COTED, and subsequent discussions, the Ministerial Council of the CRFM agreed that, in relation to fulfilling the mandate set out by the CARICOM Heads of Government at the Fourteenth Inter-Sessional Meeting in 2003, to establish a Common Fisheries Regime, the following approach would be taken:
 - a copy of the mandate of Heads be provided to Member States;
 - the CFP&R would be established sequentially, establishing a Policy first, upon which the Regime will be built;
 - a Multi-Disciplinary Technical Working Group (MTWG), consisting of expertise from fisheries, the legal section of the CARICOM and OECS Secretariats, Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Members of the CRFM, including representatives from Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago, should be established;
 - the MTWG would be expected to review proposals from Member States, including those expressed in the Statements by Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago, and in particular the proposal that the Policy should be developed separately from the Regime;
 - the recommendations of the MTWG would be submitted to a Special Meeting of the CRFM Forum in April 2009 for consideration;

- the outputs of the Special Forum Meeting in April 2009 would be considered by a Special Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council in May 2009;
- the recommendations from the Special Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council would be carried forward to a Regular Meeting of the COTED normally also held in May each year; and
- the recommendations from the Meeting of the COTED would be submitted to the Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government, scheduled to be held in July 2009, for its endorsement.

With the above in mind, the CRFM Secretariat recruited a Consultant, Prof. Winston Anderson of UWI, to review the Draft CFP&R, bearing in mind the recommendations from the Ministerial Council, and make proposals for a way forward. Based on the Consultant's proposals to the MTWG in Guyana, from 31 March - 1 April 2009, the Group revised the Draft under the Chairmanship of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. This Revised Draft CFP, with recommendations, was slated for review at the Fourth Special Forum Meeting of the CRFM in April 2009 and the consideration by a Special Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council in May 2009.

520.1 Strengthening National Fisheries Management:

Development and Implementation of Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs):

Background:

From the programme year 2003 / 04 to date, the CRFM Secretariat has been working with a number of countries, including Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Belize, Guyana, Haiti, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and the Turks and Caicos Islands in the process of developing and implementing their fisheries management plans (FMPs). Based on the process to develop / update a FMP, hold national consultations with stakeholders and obtain approval from the relevant political authority, the CRFM Secretariat sought to follow-up the activities with the Member States mentioned above as well as work with Dominica and Grenada in the updating of their FMPs.

Highlights of Achievement during the Reporting Period

The Secretariat updated the FMPs for Grenada and Dominica and submitted them to the respective Fisheries Departments for review. Grenada has since provided a schedule of events that would lead to the finalization and approval of their FMP. In follow-up activities with Anguilla, a similar schedule for finalization and approval was submitted.

Strengthening Regional Fisheries Management:

Implementation of the Medium Term Action Plan for the Institutional Strengthening for Leaders of Fisherfolk Organisations:

Background:

Following the publication of the Report on the Organizational Needs Assessment of Fisher folk organizations and the Workshop on the Report held in October 2004, a Pro Tem Working Group was formed to transform five (5) recommendations from the report into a Medium Action Plan. The Pro Tem Working Group met in Guyana for the first time, 22 – 23 June 2005, and produced a draft Strategy and Medium Term Plan of its project proposals. Following this meeting, draft reports on the Workshop on the Terms of Reference for the Pro Tem Working Group on the Institutional Strengthening of the Regional Fisher folk Organizations, and the Strategy and Medium Term Action Plan for the Fisher folk Organizations were prepared and compiled. Copies were submitted to the CTA and to the participating Member States for their review and comments. Following consultations with the CTA a draft project proposal culled from the project profiles in the Medium Term Action Plan was prepared and submitted to the CTA for consideration of funding.

With assistance from CTA, the Secretariat concluded the project documentation and signed a contract in September 2006 to implement the CRFM/CTA Project: *Strengthening of National Fisherfolk Organisations in Selected ACP Caribbean Countries*. The overall objective of the Project is to contribute to improved income earnings, higher standards of living of fisher folk and sustainable use of fishery resources in the Caribbean, with the purpose being to develop the institutional capacities of fisher folk organizations at the regional, national and community levels.

The Project is being implemented over a three year period, starting in 2006/07. So far, the training of trainers workshop for Fisheries Extension Officers to enhance their skills to provide better Information, Advisory and Training Services to Primary and National Fisher folk Organizations, the national consultations for the launch of NFOs (to be completed by February 2007) and Regional Fisheries Stakeholders Workshop to Launch CARNUFO (to be done by March 2007) have been delivered. The awareness and promotion campaign is being conducted.

Highlights of Achievement during the Reporting Period

- During this period, with funding from the GCFI Small Grants Fund, a team comprising of the Caribbean National Fisherfolk Organizations – Coordinating Unit (CNFO-CU) Coordinator, Mr. Mitchell Lay, and Deputy Coordinator, Mr. Joslyn Lee Quay, and the Deputy Executive Director (ag.), CRFM Secretariat, Mr. Terrence Phillips, visited St. Kitts and Nevis, Guyana and St. Vincent and the Grenadines during the period 13 – 29 May 2008, to promote the formation of the NFOs in these countries. A UWI – CERMES / Dalhousie University Intern, Ms. Laura Tabet, joined the team in St. Kitts and Nevis and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. In addition, during 9 – 13 June, a team comprised of the CU Coordinator, Mr. Mitchell Lay, Fisheries Extension Officer, St. Lucia, Ms. Petronila Polius, and Committee Member, St. Lucia Fisherfolk Cooperative Society Limited, St. Lucia, Ms. Julieta Herman, visited Belize to become acquainted with the business and other operations of the Primary Fisherfolk Organizations (PFOs) and National Fisherfolk Organization (NFO) there, that would enable

them to develop and implement sustainable financing and training activities.

- With assistance from the fisher folk leaders, fisheries officers, cooperatives officers and other stakeholders, three issues of the quarterly newsletter *Fisher Folk Net* were prepared and distributed to Member States and other stakeholders. Also, the Training Workshop on Management, Communication and Advocacy for Fisher Folk Organizations was organized and held in St. Lucia in September - October 2008. Twenty-seven persons, mainly fisherfolk leaders, from eleven Member States received training at this Workshop. Work on the development of the website for the Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organizations commenced during this period and is slated for completion in May 2009. The Fisheries Stakeholder Director was updated and will be published shortly.
- In January 2009, with funding from the Commonwealth Foundation and CTA, the CRFM Secretariat, in collaboration with CANARI and UWI - CERMES organized and conducted a workshop on regional fisherfolk organizations policy influence and planning. The Workshop sought to provide fisherfolk leaders with up-to-date information on fisheries initiatives in the region so as to encourage their active participation in advancing fisheries policy recommendations; and review previous activities of the CNFO - CU and prepare strategic and action plans, including a communication strategy and plan for the RFO - CU. There were 16 participants from 11 countries (Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago) comprising members of the CNFO - CU and its advisors, and a number of other leaders of national fisherfolk organizations.

520.2: Diagnostic Study to Determine the Poverty Levels in Fishing Communities in Selected CARICOM / CRFM Member States (Donor Funded)

Background:

This Project will seek to undertake a diagnosis of the socio-economic and demographic situations in fishing communities in selected CRFM Member States, especially as it relates to the determination of poverty levels in these communities, and its effects on the quality of life and community structures, in order to identify suitable models for planning and implementing alternative livelihood programmes and alleviate poverty in fishing communities.

The objectives are:

- To organize a diagnostic study to determine the levels of poverty in fishing communities in selected CRFM Member States and develop models for planning and implementing alternative livelihood programmes suited to their socio-economic and natural environments.
- To identify the demographic and socio-economic variables underlying the low standards of living in the fishing communities, and devise means of monitoring and evaluating them to determine the achievements of the poverty alleviation programmes.

A CARISEC / CARDI / CRFM Secretariat Team had discussions with a Government of Spain / TRAGSATEC Team on the Project to provide technical assistance for agriculture and fisheries

sector analysis and design specific projects in CARICOM, in November 2007, in Guyana. During these discussions it was determined that the agriculture and fisheries sector analyses would be based on desk studies using existing agriculture and fisheries reports which would be provided by CARISEC, CARDI and the CRFM Secretariat. It was noted that the project would have both regional and national components, with the national components being based on bilateral discussions with Jamaica and Guyana respectively, while the regional aspects would be in keeping with the areas identified (greenhouse and hydroponics technology demonstration centres; food security improvement for indigenous communities; diagnostic study to determine the levels of poverty in fishing communities and the development of alternative livelihood programmes) in the Terms of Reference.

A Work Plan which included the objectives of the technical mission, methodology, deliverables, role of CARISEC in project delivery and implementation timetable was outlined. The Project which commenced in November 2007 was slated for completion in January 2008, with it being noted that this was just the project identification and design phase. CARISEC urged the Government of Spain representatives at the meeting to try to ensure that the implementation phase for the projects designed would follow shortly after. During the meeting and after, the CRFM Secretariat provided the GOS/TRAGSATEC Team with documentation relevant to the fisheries component of the Project.

Highlights of Achievement during the Reporting Period:

- The CRFM Secretariat reviewed the following documents provided by the consultancy firm TRAGSATEC “Analysis of the Fisheries Sector in CARICOM and Identification of Main Action Lines with regard to Sustainable Development of Fishing Communities” and “Design Documents for the Execution of a Diagnostic Study to Determine the Poverty Levels in Fishing Communities in the CARICOM Region”, and provided comments to CARISEC.
- The Study, with an estimated budget of US\$328,872, has been approved for implementation. CARISEC and the CRFM Secretariat are in dialogue with TRAGSATEC concerning project administration and implementation.

520.4: Sustainable Development of the Queen Conch (*Strombus gigas*) Resources in the CARICOM States (Donor Funded)

This Project is designed to strengthen the management of the Queen Conch, *Strombus gigas*, fisheries in the region by strengthening regional management capability and empowering fisheries divisions to carry out their tasks through technical assistance and training, and improvement of data and resource management systems.

The Queen conch (*Strombus gigas*) is considered one of the most important fishery (second only to the Spiny lobster) resources in the CARICOM region due to local consumption as well as sources of income, primarily from export. In the last 30 years the overall harvest of conch has increased substantially largely driven by international exports as well as growing resident populations and increasing tourism in the Caribbean region. These factors have been the main contributors leading to the drastic decline in conch population densities that are seen in most Caribbean countries. Deep waters provide refuge from fishing, as the conchs are often difficult and/or uneconomical to exploit. However, the use of SCUBA equipment and hookah, in place of traditional conch hooks and free

diving techniques, has allowed expansion of the fishery into previously unexploited areas, thus placing many deep-water populations at risk (Mulliken 1996).

Conch is commercially exploited in at least 22 countries throughout the region (Mulliken 1996; Tewfik 1997). Populations of Queen conch (*Strombus gigas*) can be found along the entire Caribbean chain, from the northern coast of South America and Central America, northwards through the Lesser Antilles and northwest as far as Bermuda. (Mulliken, 1996). Annual harvest of conch ranges from 4000 MT (Appeldoorn 1994) to 10,200 MT (FAO, 1999).

In the CARICOM Region, the main objectives of Queen conch fisheries management are conservation of the species, sustainable harvest, and re-building of stocks. Management regulations for Queen conch resources include various minimum size restrictions, closures, gear and vessel restrictions, bulk harvest restrictions (quotas) and limited entry (Appeldoorn 1997; Tewfik 1997), (CFU, 2001).

The rapid expansion of export markets, and subsequent overfishing and declines in the populations led to the inclusion of *Strombus gigas* on Appendix II of CITES in 1992. Since then CITES has progressively stepped up pressure on the range states to adopt resource management and trade related measures to protect and conserve the stocks and ensure sustainable utilization and trade in the species.

The 19th Meeting of the CITES Animals Committee which was held in Geneva, 18 – 21 August 2003, on the basis of the Report of the Significant Trade Review, made several short-term and long-term recommendations regarding the species which have significant ramifications for the Caribbean States. These recommendations include among others, a moratorium on commercial harvest (outside of territorial waters) and suspension of international trade in Honduras, Dominican Republic and Haiti. CITES Animals Committee recommendation made in 2000 had already resulted in suspension of trade from three other CARICOM Countries, namely, Barbados, Dominica and Trinidad and Tobago. These suspensions have been lifted. However, Grenada was subjected to trade sanctions in May 2006 for their failure to take actions recommended in 2003, and provide information requested.

With the lifting of sanctions and release of Member States from the obligations imposed in 2003, the onus is now on Member States and regional organizations to ensure proper management of the stocks and avoid the need for future CITES interventions to regulate trade and demand better management of the species.

Objective:

The overall objective is to improve information and systems for effective management of queen conch resources in the CARICOM/CARIFORUM region to ensure the long-term sustainable exploitation of the conch resources and a better quality of life for the resource users.

Highlights of Achievement during the Reporting Period

- Based on feedback from the FAO, the Project Proposal: *Sustainable Development of the Queen Conch (Strombus gigas) Resources in the CARICOM / CARIFORUM States* was revised and submitted formally to the FAO through CARISEC. A similar Project Proposal was prepared and submitted to the IDB under the CARICOM / IDB programme. It was also

shared with NOAA for funding consideration.

520.5: Enhance the Effectiveness of MCS in the CARICOM Region (Donor funded)

The CARICOM region is spread over a very large area of the Caribbean Sea and includes several SIDs. The capacity for carrying out MCS activities varies from state to state as is demonstrated by the paucity of resources made available by most countries to the tasks of surveillance and enforcement; the current state of legislation; the low level of systems for monitoring and the apparent lack of political will to enforce fisheries regulations. As a result, the level of compliance varies throughout the region.

Most fishery resources are under national jurisdiction thus making the development of national strategy a key element in their management. However, in the Caribbean situation where countries are in close proximity to each other, both regional/sub-regional and national approaches to solutions are required. Furthermore, owing to the migratory nature of tuna and tuna-like species, and the sharing of other stocks, the impact of IUU fishing is being felt regionally. An approach to management and MCS must therefore be built on cooperation, coordination and exchange of information.

IUU fishing is a dynamic and multi-faceted problem and, as such, no single strategy is sufficient to eliminate or reduce it. A concerted and multi-pronged approach is required nationally and regionally, and by type of fishery. Assuming that there is a shared commitment for effective management of the living resources of the region, the strategy for conducting monitoring, control, surveillance and enforcement, as part of any fisheries management structure must be developed within the framework of National Plans of Action (NPOAs). These plans would encompass robust institutional capacity, effective planning, adequate funding and cooperative arrangements between institutions at the national level and between neighbouring states at the regional/sub-regional level. By so doing, states will become capable of undertaking MCS operations in a manner that will maximize their ability to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing and related activities.

Objectives:

The objective is to enhance the effectiveness of MCS above its current state by creating and sustaining the necessary harmonized and contemporary legislative and regulatory regimes; building capacity in national fisheries administrations; and fostering an attitude of compliance among fishers, which is intended to facilitate and support the management of fisheries nationally and regionally.

Highlights of Achievement during the Reporting Period:

A Project Proposal to enhance the effectiveness of monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) at the national, sub-regional and regional levels to deter, prevent and eliminate illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing was prepared and submitted to the IDB under the CARICOM/IDB programme. A similar proposal was provided to NOAA for funding consideration.

Human Resource Development – Long Term Training and Scholarships:

International Ocean Institute, CANADA

The International Ocean Institute (IOI) and the CRFM Secretariat signed a Memorandum of Understanding to facilitate the participation of individuals from the Caribbean Region in the IOI's Training and Capacity Building activities, particularly the IOI Training Programme in Ocean Governance.

In its ongoing commitment to develop the human resource base in fisheries and fisheries related disciplines in the region. Up to five scholarships valued at between US\$12,000 – US\$15,000 are awarded to candidates from the CRFM Member States each year to undergo training in Ocean Governance: Policy, Law and Management, at IOI, Dalhousie University, Canada. During the period April – June 2008, the CRFM Secretariat provided IOI scholarships for four (4) persons drawn from fisheries departments in the Member States and the CRFM Secretariat, to attend the International Ocean Institute Training Programme on Ocean Governance: Policy, Law and Management in Canada, from 21 May – 18 July 2008, Nova Scotia, Canada. Scholars are below-listed:

Country	Name and Title	Institution
Belize	Mr. Wilfredo Pott Fisheries Officer	IOI / Dalhousie University
St. Kitts and Nevis	Ms. Jihan Williams Crown Counsel	IOI / Dalhousie University
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	Mr. Hyrone Johnson Senior Fisheries Assistant	IOI / Dalhousie University
Suriname	Mr. Soereschandre Kalpoe Deputy Director of Fisheries	IOI / Dalhousie University

In January 2009 the following candidates were selected and offered scholarships to undergo training during the May - July 2009 course.

Country	Name and Title	Institution
Antigua and Barbuda	Mr. George Looby Fisheries Officer	IOI / Dalhousie University
Belize	Maxine Monsanto Environmental Officer	IOI / Dalhousie University
Jamaica	Dehaan Brown Research Officer	IOI / Dalhousie University
Turks and Caicos Islands	Wesley Clerveaux Director of Fisheries	IOI / Dalhousie University

United Nations University – Fisheries Training Programme

During the review period, the CRFM Secretariat and the United Nations University Fisheries Training Programme (UNU – FTP), located in Iceland, executed an MOU establishing a long-term relationship for the purpose of building national and regional capacity for fisheries development and management in the region. The UNU-FTP has agreed to offer up to three (3) training fellowship to

Fisheries Officers from the CRFM Member States each year for an initial period of 3 years.

The United Nations University - Fisheries Training Programme (UNU – FTP), Iceland, offers specialized training in various areas of the fisheries sector for practicing professionals in the less developed countries. The programme is led by the Marine Research Institute of Iceland in a formal cooperation with the Icelandic Fisheries Laboratories and the University of Akureyri.

In response to submissions of candidates from Member States, through the CRFM Secretariat, fellowships were awarded by the UNU - FTP, to Mrs. June Masters, Research Graduate, CRFM Secretariat and Ms. Dawn Maison, Principal Fisheries Officer, Guyana to undergo a six (6) months period of training in Iceland in 2007. Studies commenced in September, 2007 and both candidates successfully completed their courses of study in March 2008. A third fellowship was awarded to a Fisheries Officer from the Fisheries Department in Belize but the candidate was not able to take up the scholarship shortly before the commencement of the course thus making it impossible to find a substitute candidate.

In December 2007 the CRFM requested Member States to submit candidates for the second round of training under the UNU-FTP Programme. However, only one candidate from the region was successful, Dr. Lucille Grant, Fisheries Officer, Fisheries Division, St. Vincent and the Grenadines. She was offered a 6 month fellowship under the UNU – FTP programme for studies in Iceland from September 2008 –March 2009, but declined to take up the offer shortly before the scheduled commencement of the programme, thus rendering it impossible to find a substitute candidate. Nobody from the region was able to benefit from the training opportunities available in 2008, but the UNU –FTP agreed to roll-over the fellowships to future years.

Member States were asked by the CRFM to submit nominations for three fellowships to undertake six (6) months of training in Iceland commencing September 2009. The 2009/2010 Training covers such specialist areas as:

- (1) Fisheries policy and planning;
- (2) Resource assessment and monitoring;
- (3) Processing and quality management;
- (4) Management of fisheries companies and marketing;
- (5) Fishing technology and aquatic environmental assessment and monitoring.

Based on the call for candidates, three fellowships were awarded to candidates from the CRFM Member States in February 2009. The successful candidates for the September 2009 – March 2010 courses were Mr. Mauro Gongora of the Fisheries Department, Belize; Ms. Anginnette Murray, Fisheries Department, Belize; and Ms. Maren Hedley, CRFM Secretariat, St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

In addition to the UNU-FTP regular training programme in Iceland the MOU also provides for the development of short courses within the Caribbean Region.

During December 2008, a UNU-FTP Team met with a CRFM Secretariat / UWI-CERMES Team to discuss and outline two short courses on statistics and stock assessment, and on advance leadership development targeted at the heads of national fisheries administrations and other fisheries related organizations for CRFM Member States. Project proposals for both courses were prepared by the CRFM in collaboration with the UNU-FTP and submitted, January 2009, to the fund established in September 2008 by Iceland to support Small Island Developing States, the Island Growth Initiative for funding consideration.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- During the reporting period, Mrs. Yolanda Babb-Echteld, of the Fisheries Department of Suriname, continued working on her Thesis at the UWI-CERMES. Ms. Babb-Echteld was awarded European Union funded scholarship (MSc. Fisheries Science) under the Integrated Caribbean Regional Agriculture and Fisheries Development Programme – Fisheries Component. The CRFM Secretariat is also co-supervising the preparation of the MSc. Thesis. Ms. Babb-Echteld advised that she has been making corrections to her Thesis and was attempting to send electronically to Dr. Robin Mahon, UWI-CERMES, for review.
- In October 2004, the CRFM Secretariat, approved under Work Programme 1 April 2004 to 31 March 2005, and granted financial support to Ms. Ann-Marie Jobity, Director of Fisheries, Trinidad and Tobago, in respect of a fisheries research project being pursued under a PhD. Programme with UWI, Trinidad and Tobago. The project is titled: *A determination of size selectivity in gill nets towards sustainability of the Carite Fishery in Trinidad*. During the period under review, the CRFM Secretariat continued to work with Ms. Jobity on this project.
- For the 2008 academic year, to date, Ms. Lucille Grant, Fisheries Officer, Fisheries Division, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, has been offered a 6 month fellowship under the UNU - FTP programme.
- For the 2009 / 2010 academic year the UNU - FTP offered training fellowships to three candidates from Member States to pursue 6 months of intensive training in different aspects of tropical fisheries development and management in Iceland.
- The CRFM in collaboration with the UNU - FTP prepared and submitted two project proposals to the Government of Iceland (IGI Fund) for consideration.
- With respect to short-term training and attachments the CRFM Secretariat part financed and gave technical support to the attachments of Mr. Euclid Warner, Manager, Fisheries Complex, St. Kitts, at the St. Lucia Fisheries Complex and the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Fisheries Complex, 13 – 18 April 2008 and of the attachment of Ms. Delcia Brookes, Data Manager, Department of Fisheries, St. Kitts and Nevis, to the Fisheries Department, Jamaica to receive training in data collection and management during the period 11 – 27 May 2008.

Improved Post Harvest, Processing and Marketing:

560.1 Strengthening Fishery Products Health Conditions in CARICOM / CARIFORUM Members States and OCT Countries (Donor supported initiative submitted to the European Community for funding):

Background:

During the programme year 2002 / 03, the CRFM Secretariat (formerly the CARICOM Fisheries Unit) undertook a diagnostic mission which focused on the post harvest fishing sector and related support areas of Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St Lucia, St Kitts and Nevis, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago as well as the OCT UK countries, Anguilla, The British Virgin Islands, Montserrat, and Turks and Caicos and the OCT's of the Netherlands. This led to the preliminary design of a strategy and proposal for strengthening fishery products health conditions in CARICOM / CARIFORUM member states and OCT countries. The findings of the mission and the preliminary design of the proposal were complemented by, and refined through workshop discussions in which participated broad representation from agencies such as Ministries of Agriculture and Health, Standards Bureaux and National Analytical Laboratories.

Objective:

The objective of the “*Project for Strengthening Fishery Products Health Conditions in CARICOM / CARIFORUM Member States and OCT Countries*” is the optimal use of the CARICOM / CARIFORUM States’ fishery resources in order to gain improvements in production and trading capacity in relation to fishery products, so as to contribute to the securing of optimal economic and social returns from the resource.

During mid-2005, as part of the ongoing CARIFORUM and the EU negotiations for an Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), the second phase of these negotiations focused on regional integration. In this regard, the technical negotiations discussed SPS measures at the First CARIFORUM / EC Technical Session on Market Access, and a decision was made to explore the possibilities for a CARIFORUM pilot project on SPS measures in a priority area for the Caribbean region.

Following on this decision, the Regional Preparatory Task Force (RPTF), which is charged with responsibilities for advising on support measures / programmes arising out of EPA negotiations, agreed that the CARIFORUM Pilot Project on SPS Measures would focus on the fisheries sector. To this effect, the Terms of Reference for a Study to Improve Compliance with EU Commission Sanitary Standards in the CARIFORUM Fisheries Sector was prepared by the CARIFORUM Secretariat, in consultation with the CRFM Secretariat, and submitted to the Secretary of the ACP Group of States.

Objective:

The overall objective of the Study is to advise on a programme of action to eventually increase the value added and revenue derived both from existing and potential fish exports to the EU from

Caribbean operators through improved institutional collaboration and capacity in fisheries sanitary standards at the CARIFORUM level.

The specific objectives of the study are:

- (i) to identify issues (such as institutional or capacity constraints) that limit the ability of the CARIFORUM Fisheries to meet EU sanitary standards; and
- (ii) to propose a prioritised list of Terms of References for necessary actions and interventions feasible at the regional / CARIFORUM level that will provide significant benefits to the fishery sector by assisting in the implementation of EU sanitary requirements.

The EU selected a Team of Consultants to review the situation in the region and prepare a financing proposal for submission to the Commission.

Highlights of Achievement during the Reporting Period

- The Consultant's *Final Report on the Study to Improve Compliance with EU Commission Sanitary Standards in the CARIFORUM Fisheries Sector* was provided to the CRFM Secretariat by the CARIFORUM Secretariat and circulated to Member States for review and comments. The Secretariat provided the comments received from some Member States to the CARIFORUM Secretariat and made recommendations on the Way Forward.
- The Project has been approved for implementation, and is being implemented from Brussels largely through bilateral projects, but to date very little has been done in the region to address the needs of the CRFM Member States. The CRFM Secretariat has made several attempts to address identified regional needs but without any concrete success to date. The Secretariat has sought clarification from the CARIFORUM Secretariat about project administration, implementation, and progress.

520.6: UNDP / GEF / IOCARIBE Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project (Donor Funded)

The CLME Project has been developed by UNESCO / IOCARIBE and submitted to the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) for funding. It should build on and complement existing projects and initiatives that focus on technical and institutional aspects of sustainable living marine resource use. The overall objective of the project is the sustainable management of the shared living marine resources of the Caribbean LME and adjacent areas through an integrated management approach that will meet the WSSD targets for sustainable fisheries.

The specific objectives of the project are:

1. To identify, analyze and agree upon major issues, root causes and actions required to achieve sustainable management of the shared living marine resources in the Caribbean LME and its adjacent regions;

2. To improve the shared knowledge base for sustainable use and management of transboundary living marine resources;
3. To implement legal, policy and institutional reforms to achieve sustainable transboundary living marine resource management; and
4. To develop an institutional and procedural approach to LME level monitoring, evaluation and reporting (UNDP Draft CLME Project, 2007).

The project concept was accepted into the GEF pipeline in June 2003. The proposal for the second (PD-B) phase of project development was endorsed by the GEF on 9 August 2005. The purpose of this phase, which was implemented during p.y. 2006 / 07, was to develop the proposal for the full project. It was funded by GEF at US\$700,000 with about US\$200,000 contributed in-kind by participating countries and organizations.

The proposed UNDP - GEF Project: Sustainable Management of the Shared Living Marine Resources of the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME) and Adjacent Regions will take the following approach:

1. Preparation and later updating of a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA), compilation and sharing of existing information and filling critical data gaps through targeted assessments, and the creation of a new and improved Information Management System.
2. Development of a Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the Caribbean LME and Adjacent Regions to implement a more comprehensive, ecosystem-based approach to management of living marine resources.
3. The development of a CLME Governance framework for fisheries management, including mechanisms for cross-sectoral involvement and engagement of the private sector and civil society through activities that target regional level policy cycles for LME-wide governance and sub-regional cycles for large pelagic fish, flyingfish, and shrimp and ground fish of the Guianas-Brazil region.
4. Strengthening of linkages between the private sector, advisory institutions and decision making bodies in order to improve the policy cycle at all levels.
5. Development of a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for SAP implementation and determine execution procedures and responsibilities; and
6. Implementation of two demonstration projects focusing on priority transboundary fisheries to demonstrate different models for strengthening the policy cycle and management framework at the local, national and sub-regional levels and to fill critical data gaps (UNDP Draft CLME Project, 2007).

Highlights of Achievement during the Reporting Period

- Implementation of this Project is set to commence in the second quarter of 2009. To date, the

CLME Project Identification Form has been approved and the full project and pilot projects have been developed. Also, the Project Manager has been recruited.

ACTIVITY 600 : Communication and Documentation	
Output: Functioning and efficient Documentation Centre operations; Publications Disseminated. Computer networks functioning.	
Activity Start: 1 April 2008	End: 31 March 2009
Activity Progress Report Summary	
Total Budget: US\$32,613	Spent: US\$7,600
Balance: US\$25,013	
Will complete Activity within Total Budget: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Completion of Activity (Work plan): ahead <input type="checkbox"/> behind <input type="checkbox"/> on schedule <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Completion of Total Activity: ahead <input type="checkbox"/> behind <input type="checkbox"/> on schedule <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

WBS 600: COMMUNICATION AND DOCUMENTATION

Operations Manual, and Information and Documentation:

Background:

At the Third Meeting of the Forum, Members were informed that the CRFM Secretariat had done some preliminary work on a draft Operations Manual, but shortage of resources and a request by the Executive Committee, at its Fourth Meeting, to prioritize this matter, led to an appeal to the CARICOM Secretariat for financial and technical assistance. The latter directed the CRFM Secretariat to the Caribbean Centre for Administration and Development (CARICAD) which indicated that it was ready to assist.

CARICAD is a regional inter-governmental organization specializing in transforming and modernizing the public sector of Caribbean States. Headquartered in Bridgetown, Barbados, CARICAD was established in 1980 by an agreement among CARICOM governments and has helped CARICOM member and associated member governments to improve efficiencies by introducing modern management systems and processes.

CARICAD worked on finalizing the draft Operations Manual after receiving inputs from Member States at the Executive Committee and Forum Meetings held 5 – 9 May 2008 in Suriname. Member States also agreed at the Forum Meeting to send written comments on the draft Manual to CARICAD and / or the CRFM Secretariat in order to facilitate a further review at a meeting of Senior Managers of the CRFM Secretariat, 21 – 22 August 2008 in Belize.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- An Operations Manual for the CRFM was finalized and approved by the Ministerial Council of the CRFM in January 2009. Since 2003 the CRFM operations were guided by the CARISEC Manual. This new manual contains five (5) volumes and is the result of sustained technical input by the Caribbean Center for Development Administration (CARICAD), reviews and refinements undertaken by management, The Caribbean Fisheries Forum and the Executive Committee of the Forum.

The CRFM Secretariat's Website

Background:

During the programme year 2008 / 09, the CRFM Secretariat continued to utilize modern technology, more specifically, the CRFM Secretariat Website to inform its stakeholders of CRFM activities and developments in fisheries in the region. The CRFM Secretariat aims to make the Website more interactive and provided its audience with regular updates of meetings and CRFM technical reports.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- The CRFM Secretariat continued to update the Calendar of Events webpage to keep CRFM Members States and other stakeholders informed of activities being implemented by the CRFM Secretariat.
- Meeting Reports, Information Notes, Agendas and other information continued to be placed on the website.
- Redesigned and updated the CRFM Website to enable it to host the site for the Fisherfolk Organisations.

OTHER ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD:

Development and Implementation of a Programme for Enabling and Promoting MCS:

Background:

The CARICOM region is spread over a very large area of the Caribbean Sea and includes several SIDs. The capacity for carrying out MCS activities varies from state to state as is demonstrated by: the paucity of resources made available by most countries to the tasks of surveillance and enforcement; the current state of legislation; the low level of systems for monitoring and the apparent

lack of political will to enforce fisheries regulations. As a result, the level of compliance varies throughout the region.

Most fishery resources are under national jurisdiction thus making the development of national strategy a key element in their management. However, in the Caribbean situation where countries are in close proximity to each other, both regional / sub-regional and national approaches to solutions are required. Furthermore, owing to the migratory nature of tuna and tuna-like species, and the sharing of other stocks, the impact of IUU fishing is being felt regionally. An approach to management and MCS must therefore be built on cooperation, coordination and exchange of information.

IUU fishing is a dynamic and multi-faceted problem and, as such, no single strategy is sufficient to eliminate or reduce it. A concerted and multi-pronged approach is required nationally and regionally, and by type of fishery. The considerations that would influence the design of MCS systems are:

There are no universally acceptable models and each system in operation is in fact, adapted to the cultural, geographic, political and legal framework of the country or region.

The operational character of the system will depend on the fisheries management strategies being applied.

The national and regional MCS systems are complementary, with effective mechanisms being put in place for coordination.

Assuming that there is a shared commitment for effective management of the living resources of the region, the strategy for conducting monitoring, control, surveillance and enforcement, as part of any fisheries management structure must be developed within the framework of National Plans of Action (NPOAs). These plans would encompass robust institutional capacity, effective planning, adequate funding and cooperative arrangements between institutions at the national level and between neighbouring states at the regional/sub-regional level. By so doing, states will become capable of undertaking MCS operations in a manner that will maximize their ability to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing and related activities.

Objectives:

- (i) To develop a regional framework agreement and action plan on IUU fishing and monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS).
- (ii) To provide technical assistance to Member States in developing their respective NPOAs - IUU Fishing as an integral part of the process towards improved fisheries management and development.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- The Fourth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum (CFF) – the technical arm of the CRFM, requested the preparation of a regional declaration on IUU fishing. In this regard, the CRFM Secretariat convened a Regional Workshop in Montego Bay, Jamaica, 6 December 2006, at which the first draft of a *Declaration on IUU Fishing* was presented and discussed,

and comments and recommendations were made by CRFM Member States for its improvement. Based on additional comments and recommendations made at the Fifth and Sixth Meetings of the Forum, the CARICOM and CRFM Secretariats revised the document and circulated it to Member States for further review prior to the Ministerial Council Meeting in January 2009.

- The purpose of the Draft Declaration on IUU Fishing and MCS is to highlight the region's determination and commitment to protect the economic interests of its Member States and to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing within the region by enhancing the effectiveness of MCS above its current state. The January 2009 Ministerial Council Meeting agreed to accept the CRFM *Draft Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing*, in principle, while recognizing the need for a Member State (Barbados) to further consult at the national level.

ECOST Project:

Background:

The main objective of the ECOST project is to develop a new approach for the evaluation of fishing activities and fishing policies in order to contribute to a better management of aquatic resources in the world. The project falls under the logic of the decision of Johannesburg to restore the marine ecosystems by 2015 and the philosophy of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) for a responsible fishery.

The project involves 23 partners and is geographically spread over three (3) continents (three (3) countries for each continent) that are characterized respectively by ecosystems of coastal upwelling (West Africa with Mauritania, Senegal and Guinea Bissau), delta (South East Asia with China, Vietnam and Thailand) and coral reef (Caribbean with Cuba, Jamaica and Dominican Republic). Within each region / ecosystem (eco- region) several fisheries have been selected as representative of global fishing activities. Furthermore, a marine protected area will be chosen in order to establish comparative analysis within the said eco- region, and to serve as a reference point.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- The CRFM Secretariat continued to monitor the implementation of the Project.

Safety at Sea Project:

The objectives of the project are to undertake an evaluation / needs assessment of the numbers and types of incidents / injuries that divers receive in the commercial / artisanal fishery and compile the results in a format suitable to be stored in a database for analysis and development of a management plan at a later date.

The expected outputs are:

- A database with information on number of divers in the conch lobster fishery, types of injuries associated with diving in the conch and lobster fishery, causes of diver injuries in the

conch and lobster fishery, frequency of injuries associated with the lobster and conch fishery and the problems and risk divers face in the conch and lobster fishery.

- An assessment of the diver occupation in the CARIFORUM / CARICOM Region.
- This document will provide the stakeholders of the lobster and conch resources and the Department of Fisheries in the CARICOM / CARIFORUM region with the necessary data to initiate a plan to reduce the hazards associated with unsafe diving practices in the artisanal diving fishery.
- Production of Reports on findings.
- Production and availability of baseline data for further studies.

The Project proposal was submitted to the Spanish Government for consideration for funding at the Second Meeting of the CARICOM – Spain Joint Commission, 18 – 20 October 2006, Jamaica.

Highlights of Achievements up to the Reporting Period:

- During the reporting period, a Project Proposal: Improving the Income, Safety and Welfare of Small Scale Fishers in Dominica, Guyana and Jamaica was prepared and submitted for consideration to the Commodity Development Programme through CARISEC. The project will focus on small-scale fishers and their families in some of the poorest fishing communities in Dominica, Guyana and Guyana. The main activities will be aimed at income diversification through the development of new economic activities appropriate to the local communities, improved local capacity for business management and entrepreneurial skills, and increased self reliance. It will also seek to address the issues affecting the occupational safety and social welfare of small-scale fishers in the countries mentioned.

APPENDIX A:

PROCUREMENT LIST

Project Name: Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism - Secretariat
 For the period starting: April 1, 2008

Ending: March 31, 2009

Purchase Date	Cheque or Ref. No.	QTY	Equipment description	Model	Cost US\$	Location
08/31/2008	9JNOV087	1	Laptop serial #S0130069004	Sony	773.79	Belize
12/31/2008	9DEC08-chk02445	1	4-Drawer filing cabinet		299.50	Belize
01/31/2009	9JJAN09	1	Laptop: Serial #CNU8431YOB	HP Pavilion	1,176.99	Belize
02/27/2009	9JFEB099	1	UPS (IC/T computer)		85.00	Belize
Total US\$					\$ 2,335.28	

APPENDIX B:

**CRFM SECRETARIAT
STAFF**

CRFM SECRETARIAT STAFF

COORDINATION and MANAGEMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>Skills Area/Level</u>
Hugh Saul	Executive Director	MSc. / MBA / Cert. Exec. Management
Milton Haughton	Deputy Executive Director	MSc. / Dip. Mang.
Anthony Luis Mills (Passed away in September 2008)	Corporate Services Manager	MSc. / MBA

TECHNICAL

Terrence Phillips	Programme Manager, Fisheries Management and Development	MSc.
Susan Singh-Renton	Programme Manager, Research and Resource Assessment	PhD
Delmar Lanza	Manager, Finance and Administration	BSc.
June Masters	Research Graduate: Statistics and Information	MSc.
Maren Headley	Research Graduate: Research and Resource Assessment	MSc.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCE SUPPORT

Andrew Barnes	Accounting Assistant
Pamela Gibson-Murphy	Administrative Secretary
Sherlene Audinett	Secretary
Rochelle Staine	Information Clerk / Typist
John Cyrus	Office Assistant / Driver
Zelma Baizar	Office Attendant
Olin Myers	Office Assistant

APPENDIX C:

REPORTING ON USAGE OF FINANCIAL INFLOWS

Work Programs Budget Reconciliation
Currency: United States Dollars

Work Programs Period: April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009
Reporting Period: April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009

ACTIVITY	DETAILED PROJECT EXPENSES	APPROVED BUDGET				PREVIOUS EXPENDITURE				CUMULATIVE EXPENDITURE				Mark Program Budget	
		WP Budget	TOTAL	January	February	March	TOTAL	January	February	March	TOTAL	January	February	Budget	%
100	Administrative and Support	\$ 405,954	\$ 354,414				\$ 354,414				\$ 354,414			\$ 354,414	-12%
110	General Administration														
111	General Administration - Admin														
112	Procurement of IT/ITM Goods	75,000	75,000	5,500	5,500	17,500	18,500	5,500	5,500	17,500	33,500	5,500	5,500	154,100	-47%
113	Procurement of IT/ITM Services	3,000	3,000	1,100	1,100	1,100	3,300	1,100	1,100	1,100	3,300	1,100	1,100	6,100	103%
114	Procurement of IT/ITM Supplies	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000	1,000	1,000	6,100	103%
115	Procurement of IT/ITM Equipment	21,000	21,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	33,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	33,000	11,000	11,000	1,100	14%
120	General Administration - Staff														
121	General Administration - Staff - Salaries and Benefits	30,000	30,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	24,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	24,000	8,000	8,000	116,400	-44%
122	General Administration - Staff - Travel	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
123	General Administration - Staff - Other	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
130	General Administration - Other														
131	General Administration - Other - Salaries and Benefits	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
132	General Administration - Other - Travel	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
133	General Administration - Other - Other	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
200	Administrative, Policy and Planning														
201	Administrative, Policy and Planning - Admin														
202	Administrative, Policy and Planning - Staff														
203	Administrative, Policy and Planning - Other														
210	Administrative, Policy and Planning - Admin - Salaries and Benefits	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
211	Administrative, Policy and Planning - Admin - Travel	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
212	Administrative, Policy and Planning - Admin - Other	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
220	Administrative, Policy and Planning - Staff - Salaries and Benefits	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
221	Administrative, Policy and Planning - Staff - Travel	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
222	Administrative, Policy and Planning - Staff - Other	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
230	Administrative, Policy and Planning - Other - Salaries and Benefits	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
231	Administrative, Policy and Planning - Other - Travel	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
232	Administrative, Policy and Planning - Other - Other	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
300	Education, Training and Information														
301	Education, Training and Information - Admin														
302	Education, Training and Information - Staff														
303	Education, Training and Information - Other														
310	Education, Training and Information - Admin - Salaries and Benefits	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
311	Education, Training and Information - Admin - Travel	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
312	Education, Training and Information - Admin - Other	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
320	Education, Training and Information - Staff - Salaries and Benefits	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
321	Education, Training and Information - Staff - Travel	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
322	Education, Training and Information - Staff - Other	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
330	Education, Training and Information - Other - Salaries and Benefits	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
331	Education, Training and Information - Other - Travel	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
332	Education, Training and Information - Other - Other	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
400	Computer Resources and Management														
401	Computer Resources and Management - Admin														
402	Computer Resources and Management - Staff														
403	Computer Resources and Management - Other														
410	Computer Resources and Management - Admin - Salaries and Benefits	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
411	Computer Resources and Management - Admin - Travel	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
412	Computer Resources and Management - Admin - Other	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
420	Computer Resources and Management - Staff - Salaries and Benefits	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
421	Computer Resources and Management - Staff - Travel	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
422	Computer Resources and Management - Staff - Other	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
430	Computer Resources and Management - Other - Salaries and Benefits	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
431	Computer Resources and Management - Other - Travel	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%
432	Computer Resources and Management - Other - Other	10,000	10,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	-17%

