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CRFM ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

CRFM Annual Technical Progress and Financial Report
April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011

Funded by Members and Associate Members of the Caribbean Community

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM SECRETARIAT

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TRANSMITTAL MEMORANDUM OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MEMO TO: Mr. James C. Gumbs, 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: April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2011**

Please find enclosed the Technical and Financial Progress Report of the CRFM Secretariat for the period April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2011. The Report is based on activity schedules and budgets from the approved Work Plan and Budget for Programme Year April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2011.

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.

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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: 1st April 2010

Work Programme Budget Approval: Yes

Cost Limitation:

Core	**– US$1,027,170 (EC$2,761,238)**
Projects	**– US$ 852,719 (EC$2,292,279)**
Total Budget	**– US$1,879,889 (EC$5,053,517)**

The style of presentation of this report is guided by the Comprehensive Work Plan and Budget format as presented to, and accepted by the CRFM Ministerial Council at its Second Special Meeting in Castries, St. Lucia on July 28, 2010. The report captures all the activities that were implemented, and identifies the sources of financing to differentiate between our core budget (Member States' contribution), and donor supported project expenditures. There has been a strategic shift in the relationship with our major donors. In the management of donor supported projects, our role has change from **manager** to **partner** and the position of our staff in the implementation process has varied from **leader** in some cases, to **support** in others.

The Executive Director of the 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. Thirteen (13) Member States made contributions during the period (April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2011) totaling EC$2,895,858 (US$1,077,249). The arrears decreased from EC$1,531,124 as at April 1, 2010 to EC$1,044,891 as at March 31, 2011. While current contributions made by Member States was EC$1,662,114 (US$618,300) as at March 31, 2010. It is worth noting that the total contributions received include payment by The Bahamas and Trinidad and Tobago for P.Y. 2011 / 2012.

The Eighth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum was held April 22 - 23, 2010, Belize City, Belize. The Meeting elected a new Executive Committee of the Forum and considered, *inter alia***,** the status of the draft Common Fisheries Policy; the draft Regional Declaration on IUU Fishing and MCS, for the CRFM Member States; Report on CRFM's Fifth Annual Scientific Meeting; Draft Procedures for recruiting the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director, CRFM Secretariat; and the CRFM Secretariat's Draft Biennial Work Plan and Budgets for P.Y. 2010 – 2011 and 2011 – 2012.

The Second Special Meeting of the Ministerial Council of the CRFM was held July 28, 2010, Castries, St. Lucia. One of the major outputs of this meeting was the approval of the "**Castries (St. Lucia) Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing**." The meeting considered, *inter alia*, the CRFM Secretariat's Draft Biennial Work Plan and Budgets 2010 – 2011 and 2011 – 2012; draft Common Fisheries Policy; Draft Declaration on IUU Fishing and MCS; and Procedures for Recruiting the Executive Director and the Deputy Executive Director of the CRFM Secretariat.

During this period, the CRFM Secretariat experienced delays with some of its priority activities. One such example was the delay in finalizing a draft Agreement on a Common Fisheries Policy for the Caribbean Community. Owing to the submission of substantive recommended changes to the draft Policy by a Member State, which would have set back the process quite a few years.

Another major decision during this period, was to advertise the posts of Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director for the CRFM Secretariat, in light of the maturity of the incumbents contracts. The process of recruitment began with the transfer of funds to the CARICOM Secretariat who are coordinating the activity and need resources to advertise the posts. It is expected that the final stage of the process of interviewing and recommending successful candidates to the Ministerial Council should be achieved before June 2011.

The Third Meeting of the Ministerial Council of the CRFM was held October 19, 2010, St. George's, Grenada. Two of the major items on the agenda were the draft Common Fisheries Policy and the Procedures for Recruiting the Executive Director and the Deputy Executive Director of the CRFM Secretariat. The meeting considered, *inter alia*, presentation by the Programme Manager, Research and Resource Assessment on Sustainable Development and Conservation of Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the Caribbean – The Role of ICCAT; CRFM half-Yearly Technical Progress and financial Report April 1 – September 30, 2010; Member States Contribution.

The Executive Committee of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum held its Seventeenth Meeting December 8, 2010, Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The meeting considered, *inter alia***,** Update: Conclusions of the Eight Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum; the status of the draft Common Fisheries Policy; Recruitment of the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director, CRFM Secretariat; Review of Staff Performance Appraisal Instrument for CRFM Secretariat; CRFM Half-Yearly Technical Progress and Financial Report April 1 – September 30, 2010, Member States Contribution; Update: Resolution in Respect of Overdraft Facility for the CRFM Secretariat.

The Executive Director conducted a mission to Antigua and Barbuda during the period February 23 – 25, 2011. The purpose of his mission was to brief the Minister of Agriculture, Lands, Housing and the Environment, and his Permanent Secretary and technical staff on current issues of the CRFM, as Antigua and Barbuda is scheduled to assume the Chair of the CRFM. He also discussed arrangements for the Fourth Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council scheduled for May 20, 2011, St. John's Antigua and Barbuda.

Common Fisheries Policy

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, February 14 - 15, 2003. Following the inaugural Meeting of CRFM in March 2003, the COTED determined that, given CRFM's specialised mandate and competence in fisheries, it was in a position to provide technical leadership with regard to the directive of the Heads of Government to develop a Common Fisheries Policy and 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, to discuss and negotiate the content of the Agreement establishing the Policy.

The Draft Agreement on a CFP, 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. It is an instrument for transforming the fisheries sector to ensure a better, more secure future for present and future generations.

The draft Agreement has undergone a number of reviews and refinements with inputs from the Forum, Member States (through National Consultations), Multidisciplinary Working Groups, supported by Legal consultants (Prof. Winston Anderson and Dr. Winston McCalla) and staff of the CARICOM and CRFM Secretariats.

On March 11, 2010, the CRFM Secretariat received substantial written comments from the Government of Trinidad and Tobago on the Draft Agreement (May 2009 version), and a Revised Draft Agreement based on those comments. These were circulated to all Member States on March 12, 2010. The comments were also tabled at the Second Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council convened on March 18, 2010 in Paramaribo, Suriname, by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago. The Council referred the matter to the Forum for consideration given the technical nature and extent of the comments.

The matter was discussed during the 8th Meeting of the CRFM Forum in Belize City, Belize April 22 - 23, 2010. The Meeting agreed to use the May 12, 2009 version of the "Draft Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Common Fisheries Policy" as the base document (hereinafter the Base Document) instead of the Revised Agreement proposed by Trinidad and Tobago. The Meeting also agreed to review the Base Document paragraph by paragraph in light of the submissions made by the representative of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago. However, the review process was further complicated when the Representative of the Government of Barbados tabled a document with extensive additional comments and recommendations for modifying the Base Document.

After much discussion and limited progress in agreeing on the proposed changes requested by the Governments of Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados, the Meeting decided that the CRFM Secretariat supported by the Legal Consultant should meet with the Governments of Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados to further discuss and resolve the differences, and update the Draft Agreement in light of the discussions. The CRFM visited both countries in May 2010 and held discussions aimed at narrowing the differences. Both countries subsequently revised and resubmitted their comments and suggestions for further modification of the Agreement on the CFP. Written comments were also submitted by the Government of Suriname on June 11, 2010, and by the Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network (WIDECAST) on May 31, 2010.

The CRFM Secretariat, supported by a the Legal Consultant, has reviewed the submissions received and started the process of amending the Base Document by incorporating those proposed changes that were accepted by the Eighth Meeting of the Forum (April 22 - 23, 2010) or deemed to be refinements of the existing document . While the submissions of Suriname are in the nature of refinements to the Base Document, key changes proposed by Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados are seeking substantial revisions which would result in fundamental changes to the Base Document.

These fundamental changes to the Draft Agreement have thus far been resisted by the other Member States.

The Second Special Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council which was convened at the Bel Jou Hotel, Castries, Saint Lucia on July 28, 2010, under the chairmanship of the Hon. Ezechiel Joseph, Minister of Agriculture, Lands, Forestry and Fisheries, Saint Lucia, considered the state of development of the CFP, how to resolve the outstanding matters and complete the preparation of the Policy. The Council decided, *inter alia*, that the CRFM and CARICOM Secretariats should jointly convene a multi-disciplinary conference involving representatives from Foreign Affairs, Fisheries and Legal Departments of Member States to review and expedite the preparation of the Draft Agreement on the Common Fisheries Policy.

The CRFM Secretariat prepared and submitted a proposal to the ACP Fish II Project to secure funding for the Multi-disciplinary conference. The proposal was accepted by the Project and approved by the European Commission in August 2010. IBF International Consulting (Brussels) has been recruited by the EU to undertake the assignment. Field work began in February 2011 and the activity will conclude with a Multi-disciplinary Conference to be attended by Member States representative supported by University of the West Indies, the CARICOM, OECS and CRFM Secretariats.

Draft Declaration on IUU Fishing

The Fourth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum (CFF) requested the preparation of a regional declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing and Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS). In this regard, the CRFM Secretariat convened a Regional Workshop in Montego Bay, Jamaica, December 6, 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. In January 2009, the Ministerial Council at its First 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.

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. At the Seventh Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum in July 2009 in St. Lucia, Member States were requested to submit their feedback on the Draft Declaration to facilitate its completion and adoption. It was updated by the CRFM Secretariat with inputs from Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago and resubmitted to the Second Regular Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council on March 18, 2010 in Suriname. The Council approved the Draft Declaration in principle with the understanding that Barbados would submit any remaining comments. Following on a review of the comments submitted by Barbados at the Eighth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum, in Belize, April 2010, and subsequent editing by the CRFM Secretariat, the Draft Declaration was presented and approved at the Second Special

Ministerial Council Meeting on July 28, 2010, in St. Lucia, titled: **The Castries (St. Lucia) Declaration on Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) Fishing**.

ICCAT

As in previous years, the CRFM Secretariat provided technical support and advice to countries on the management of highly migratory Atlantic tuna and tuna like species, which is coordinated by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). In particular, the Secretariat provided technical guidance to countries with regard to: fulfillment of reporting obligations to ICCAT covering all aspects ranging from fishing operations to surveillance and enforcement activities; monitoring and reporting to countries on developments at ICCAT at both the scientific and management levels; participation and negotiation strategies; preparation of research proposals for ICCAT-sponsorship.

The Secretariat completed and submitted the 2010 CARICOM report to ICCAT, which was prepared on behalf of those CARICOM Member States that were not members of ICCAT at the time, but which actively fish for species of interest to ICCAT: Dominica, Grenada and St. Lucia. These three countries provided information about: the characteristics of their tuna and tuna-like fisheries, technological developments including increasing use of FADs, their tuna and tuna-like fishing activities during 2009, and current regulations for achieving sustainable management of these resources. The 2010 CARICOM report to ICCAT also updated ICCAT about CRFM activities in research, assessment and management of tuna and tuna-like resources, including: CRFM's large pelagic consultancy contribution to the CLME project; CRFM's collaboration with JICA for sustainable development of FAD fisheries, and CRFM's 2010 evaluations of two regionally important species, the dolphinfish and blackfin tuna.

In response to a request from the Forum to establish more formal relations with ICCAT, the Secretariat prepared an information paper in October 2010 for consideration by the CRFM Ministerial Council, and to provide guidance for review of ICCAT participation strategies at both the national and regional level. The CRFM Ministerial Council endorsed the need for these strategy reviews, and further requested the Secretariat to evaluate the benefits of regional membership in ICCAT.

In November 2010, the Secretariat participated in the Seventeenth regular meeting of ICCAT, during which it provided technical assistance to countries during negotiations for: a catch allocation scheme for north Atlantic swordfish, proposed recommendations for conserving vulnerable shark species, and a proposed recommendation for conserving Atlantic sailfish that did not take into account the food use of that resource. As a result, the former catch allocation scheme for north Atlantic swordfish was retained pending additional negotiations in 2011, for which the CARICOM countries need to document their fishery development/management plans. The hammerhead regulation incorporated a clause to take into account the local consumption needs of coastal states, and ICCAT withdrew the sailfish recommendation.

The Secretariat also provided specific technical assistance to Belize, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago for the preparation and submission of two port sampling proposals, aimed at attracting sponsorship from ICCAT. The level of ICCAT sponsorship allocated to the port

sampling proposals was finalized early in 2011, paving the way for implementation of the proposed port sampling programmes in the near future.

CRFM's Sixth Annual Scientific Meeting and Technical Working Groups

In June 2010, the Secretariat convened the CRFM's Sixth Annual Scientific Meeting, which was attended by 11 CRFM Member States, as well as scientists from Canada, Brazil, the National Marine Fisheries Service – Southeast Fisheries Science Center (Miami, USA), IFREMER (Martinique), and Instituto Oceanográfico - Universidad de Oriente (Venezuela). During this meeting, four CRFM technical working groups completed specific tasks. The CRFM LPWG completed a regional assessment of Eastern Caribbean dolphinfish fisheries, in fulfillment of contractual arrangements under the CLME project, and was therefore able to provide updated management advice and recommendations for this fishery, based on a detailed review and analysis of available catch and fishing effort data from several major island and non-island fisheries. The LPWG reviewed and summarized the available information about the commercially important blackfin tuna fishery, paving the way for a more detailed assessment to be attempted in the near future. Options for evaluation of recreational fisheries were also discussed, and agreement was obtained on the way forward. The CRFM SCPWG completed a review of Ms. Headley's inter-sessional analysis of Eastern Caribbean flyingfish fishery as part of her training in Iceland under the UNU-FTP sponsorship arrangements, and developed an inter-sessional work plan for completing a bio-economic evaluation of the fishery by 2011. The CRFM RSWG reviewed and analysed data on the reef fishery of Montserrat and made recommendations for continuing data entry and analysis of this fishery in the future. The report of the Sixth Annual CRFM Scientific Meeting has been completed, in preparation for publication and posting on the CRFM website.

The CRFM Working Group on Data, Methods, and Training (CRFM DMTWG) also met during the Sixth Annual Scientific Meeting. During the 2010 DMTWG sessions, 11 CRFM fisheries scientists were trained in the use of R- statistical software and fisheries data analyses techniques. Additionally, the DMTWG recommended that a CRFM toolbox and CRFM Casebook / Notebook be established and be made accessible via the CRFM website to provide: customized, online guidance to CRFM fisheries officers regarding data requirements and layout for the various assessment methods and the types of management outputs generated by these methods using case study illustrations; annotated assessment exercises, and; training materials. The first contributions for the CRFM toolbox and CRFM Casebook / Notebook are being prepared, and will soon appear on the CRFM website for use by CRFM fisheries officers. The DMTWG also recommended that an e-group or listserv be established to facilitate communication during the inter-sessional period, and that a scientific newsletter be published annually, to document the work and conclusions of the annual scientific meetings in a layman-friendly format.

Development of Regional Networking Partnerships

At the Research and Resource Assessment level, the 2010 activities of the CRFM LPWG and the CRFM SCPWG benefited not only from participation from the CRFM membership, but also from the participation and inputs of scientists from Canada, Brazil, UWI, the National Marine Fisheries Service – Southeast Fisheries Science Center (Miami, USA), IFREMER (Martinique), and Instituto

Oceanográfico –Universidad de Oriente (Venezuela). The representatives from Brazil, IFREMER, and the Instituto Oceanográfico –Universidad de Oriente contributed data and research information on the dolphinfish and blackfin tuna fisheries operating in their areas. The participation of Canada in the Sixth Annual Scientific Meeting is part of an anticipated broader collaborative effort between the government of Canada and the CRFM to strengthen CARICOM contributions to the ICCAT management process.

CARIFIS

The Secretariat provided CARIFIS related assistance to six Member States reinforced by two national CARIFIS missions to provide technical assistance and training. Member States which benefited from the CARIFIS national missions were Anguilla; February 7 – 9, 2011 and Montserrat; February 10 – 11, 2011.

A total of 10 fisheries staffs were trained in the use of CARIFIS, seven in Anguilla and three in Montserrat. The resources and technical assistance provided to Anguilla and Montserrat during the national missions resulted in renewed CARIFIS use in Anguilla and advanced use of CARIFIS in Montserrat.

Formulation of Master Plan on Sustainable use of Fisheries Resources for Coastal Community Development in the Caribbean

Arising from the decisions reached at the project Steering Committee Meeting held in December 2009 (St. Vincent and the Grenadines), 3 categories of pilot projects were selected for implementation in six (6) countries between April 2010 and October 2011. The Pilot Projects and targeted countries are: (i) Pelagic Fishery Resource Development and Management using Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) in St. Lucia and Dominica; (ii) Development of Fisheries Statistical System Models in Guyana and St. Vincent and the Grenadines; and (iii) Small-scale aquaculture training in Jamaica and low cost small-scale aquaculture development in Belize.

Pelagic Fishery Resource Development and Management using Fish Aggregating Device (FAD)

A CRFM-JICA-CFTDI team was established to provide oversight for implementation of this pilot project. Field work commenced in April 2010, with the completion of detailed stakeholder surveys at the pilot study sites of Dominica and St. Lucia. These two countries had been selected for the pilot studies owing to their direct and immediate interest and active involvement in promoting FAD fisheries. The detailed surveys of April 2010 obtained information from stakeholders about: the present nature and extent of FAD fishing operations, approaches to monitoring and management of the FADs, and FAD fishery performance trends.

Trial FADs have been constructed using local materials, and these designs have since been further modified, based on the experiences gained from the project so far, and the advice of the fishers using the FADs. The project delivered training in monitoring of both the FAD structures deployed, as well as the fishing operations associated with FADs. Additionally, to facilitate monitoring of FAD fishing

activities, the project reviewed and adapted national fishery statistical monitoring forms in collaboration with the fisheries authorities in the two countries. Field trials to test the proposed methodologies are in progress, and 4 FAD management workshops have been held in the two countries to facilitate review of work progress, to consider options for addressing the ongoing challenges at the monitoring and management levels, and to provide training in processing of diamondback squid that is an under-utilized resource also harvested around FADs.

Development of Fisheries Statistical System (FSS) Models

The strategy embraced in developing the fisheries statistical models is to build on the achievements and resources already in place in the two selected countries, while positioning the systems to provide the type of information needed by fisheries managers to assist the decision making process. To this end the data collection and management systems of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Guyana (the two target countries in which the statistical pilot projects are being implemented) were reviewed. The revised data collection systems are being implemented and performance of the systems will be reviewed in programme year 2011 / 12. As a component of developing the FSS model in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the following activities were also undertaken: the CARIFIS database software was fully implemented, appropriate computer environment for data compiling and analysis was provided and 15 fisheries staffs were trained in data entry into CARIFIS. A CARIFIS Training of Trainers Workshop, which provided training for the provision of CARIFIS technical support, was also undertaken. Guyana was also provided with appropriate computer environment for data compiling and analysis and efforts are underway to evaluate how other entities such as cooperatives, fisheries companies and fishers, could assist with data collection activities.

Aquaculture

In early 2010, the Japanese Experts of IC Net Limited and CRFM Secretariat counterpart specialist staff visited the countries in which pilot projects were to be implemented to develop detailed work plans for each project in collaboration with the staff of the National Fisheries Departments / Divisions. These work plans have been reviewed and finalized, and are now being implemented.

The Secretariat, in collaboration with IC Net Limited, facilitated the *First Regional Aquaculture Development Planning Workshop*, in March 2011, which was aimed at providing training in project cycle management, including problem analysis and planning, and assisting in the preparation of draft action plans for sustainable aquaculture development in Belize, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago. In terms of the way forward, the participants from the six Member States agreed to undertake intersessional activities such as the finalization of the country specific aquaculture development actions plans; drafting of a concept paper on the Formation of a Regional Network of Aquaculture Organisations; and preparation of a working group report on the definitions for subsistence, small scale and large/commercial scale aquaculture farms. They also agreed to set up an e-group to monitor the progress towards the meeting of the deadlines for intersessional activities.

Human Resource Development

CRFM / UNU-FTP Training Programme

The CRFM Secretariat has established a long-term relationship with the University of the United Nations – Fisheries Training Programme (UNU – FTP), Iceland, for the purpose of building national and regional capacities for fisheries development and management in the region. The UNU has agreed to offer up to three (3) training fellowship to Fisheries Officers from the CRFM Member States each year. In this regard, fellowships were awarded to Ms. Anginette Murray, Marine Researcher / Analyst (ag.), Jamaica; Ms. Maren Headley, Research Graduate, CRFM Secretariat; and Mr. Mauro Gongora, Fisheries Officer, Belize, to undergo a six (6) months period of training in Iceland. Studies commenced in September, 2009 and all three candidates successfully completed their courses of study in March 2010.

For Academic Year September 2010 – March 2011, nominations were invited for three scholarships to undertake six (6) months of training in Iceland in the following specialist areas:

(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.

Fellowships were awarded to Mr. Roderick Sobers, Senior Fisheries Assistant, Barbados, Mr. Ricardo Murray, Fisheries Officer, Jamaica and Mr. Jerome DeShong, Manager, National Fisheries Marketing Limited, St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Mr. DeShong declined the scholarship. A substitute candidate could not be found owing to the late advice.

In December 2008, a UNU-FTP Team met with a CRFM Secretariat / UWI-CERMES Team to discuss and outline two (2) short courses on Statistics and Stock Assessment and on Advanced Leadership Development targeted at the Heads of national fisheries administrations and other fisheries related organizations from CRFM Member States. The Project proposals were approved by the Government of Iceland in December 2009.

The CRFM Secretariat in collaboration with the United Nations University –Fisheries Training Programme (UNU-FTP), and the University of Akuyreri, Iceland (UA); the University of Belize (UB), and the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus (UWI), developed the training material and conducted the Advanced Leadership Training Workshop for Heads of National Fisheries Administrations of CRFM Member States in April 2010, through a grant awarded to the CRFM by the Government of Iceland under its Island Growth Initiative Fund.

The overall development goal of this capacity building workshop was to enhance the contribution of fisheries to the social and economic development of Member States and achieve a better quality of life and standard of living for fisherfolk and coastal communities through sustainable development, management and conservation of the fisheries resource systems. The specific objective of the workshop was to ensure that Heads of the national fisheries authorities of the CRFM Member States are equipped with the knowledge and skills required to provide high quality leadership in their

organizations. Nineteen senior officers from the CRFM Member States, and the CRFM and OECS Secretariats received training during the workshop which was held in Belize City, Belize, April 25 - 30, 2010.

Beginning January 2011, training material for the stock assessment course was developed through collaboration among the lecturers from, UNU – FTP, CRFM Secretariat, and the University of the West Indies. The first phase of this course was held at UWI's Cavehill Campus in Barbados during August - September 2010. A total of nineteen (19) fisheries officers from CRFM States were trained in basic methods of fisheries data analysis and stock assessment. Inter-sessional assignments were identified and proposed for completion by each of the trainees, in preparation for the second phase of the course that is expected to take place in the near future.

CRFM / IOI Training Programme

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. The successful scholars in Programme Year 2010 were, Ms Ingrid Peters, Fisheries Officer, Guyana, Mr. Alywn Ponteen, Fisheries Officer, Montserrat, and Ms. Allena Joseph, Fisheries Biologist, St. Lucia.

CLME Project

As part of the start-up to the CLME Project, the CRFM Secretariat prepared and submitted two Consultancy Case Study Proposals for the TDA gap filling activities and the SAPs for the Eastern Caribbean flyingfish and the large pelagic fisheries. These received formal approval, and initial funds have been provided. The Secretariat also participated in the CLME Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Training Workshop in Panama, September 28 - 29, 2010 and the Meeting of the Technical Task Team (TTT) and Stakeholder Advisory Group (STAG) in Panama, September 30 – October 1, 2010. The TTT and STAG reviewed the Pilot Projects and Case Studies Work Plans and the Communication and Participation Strategies for the CLME Project and prepared recommendations for consideration by the Project Steering Committee Meeting which was held in November 2010.

The CRFM has since established a Steering Committee for each of two Case Studies. These Committees met in February 2011 and formally endorsed the proposed workplans, budgets and schedules for the two Studies, and implementation of TDA activities have advanced.

The Deputy Executive Director and Programme Manager, Fisheries Management and Development participated in the CLME Steering Committee Meeting in November 2010 in Panama which was aimed at approving the Work Plan and Budget for the Project.

The CRFM Secretariat organized and convened the First Meeting of the CRFM / CLME Eastern Caribbean Flyingfish Fishery Consultancy Steering Committee, on 10 February 2011, and the First Meeting of the CRFM / CLME Large Pelagic Fishery Consultancy Steering Committee, on February 11, 2011, in Barbados. The Agenda items for the two Meetings included a review of the CSC Terms of Reference; overview of the CLME Project; presentation of case study background, objectives,

proposed activities, budget and implementation schedule; review and discussion of any issues pertaining to the case study objectives, activities, and implementation schedule and conclusions and recommendations of the Committee.

EU / ACP Fish II Project

The CRFM Secretariat participated in the First Meeting of the ACP Fish II Steering Committee held on January 29, 2010 at the ACP Secretariat in Brussels to review the activities carried out during the start-up phase and the results of the regional needs assessment workshops. The Meeting also reviewed and adopted the first operational Programme Estimates (PE1).

The CRFM Secretariat prepared and submitted a number of regional project proposals for inclusion in the Draft ACP Fish II Caribbean Regional Plan of Action. These included: Training in the negotiation of Regional Fisheries Policy Instruments; Technical Assistance regarding the Development of the CARICOM Common Fisheries Policy; Public Awareness Programme regarding the Common Fisheries Policy; MCS Projects: Phase I and II; Development of the Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations; Study to review the impact of rising cost factors, such as capital, labour, maintenance and energy costs on fisheries operations in the CRFM Member States and propose appropriate strategies for dealing with the resulting issues; Rehabilitation and Management of the Queen Conch (*Strombus gigas)* Resources in the CARICOM/CARIFORUM Member States; Human resource development needs assessment survey for the fisheries and related sectors in the CRFM/CARIFORUM region; and the CRFM Knowledge Exchange System Component.

The Secretariat participated in the *ACP Fish II Workshop for Presentation and Discussion of the Action Plan for the Caribbean ACP Fish II Programme,* from October 28 – 29, 2010, in St. Kitts and Nevis. The Workshop objectives were to present the proposed Action Plan; validate the Programme Estimate 1 (PE1) Projects and discuss and approve Programme Estimate 2 (PE2) Projects. The output was the finalization of the Action Plan of Projects to be supported by the ACP Fish II Programme.

Spanish Funded Project to Determine Poverty Levels in Fishing Communities

Following the February 2010 training workshop, and in keeping with the agreed *Way Forward*, comments on the revised questionnaires and manual to be used in the survey, as well as updated country information, which assisted in the determination of the sample frame for each country, were provided and the questionnaires and manual and the software for data entry finalized. The field survey commenced in earnest in July 2010.

During the month of November 2010, the Regional Project Coordinator (RPC) undertook monitoring missions to six of the ten selected member states namely, St. Kitts and Nevis, Montserrat, Jamaica, Barbados, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago. The main purpose of these visits was to observe and participate in the field and data management activities, including data transmission to the Consultant, Tragsatec. During the visits, the RPC also made a presentation about the Study to the staff of the Fisheries Divisions / Departments as well as other invited stakeholders and collected copies of any

promotional materials that would have been used to inform stakeholders and the general public about the Study. Subsequently, monitoring activities were undertaken in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada, Belize and The Bahamas during December 10 – 22, 2010.

With the monitoring visits to all member states having been completed, a revised scheduled for the completion of the field survey and data input and transmission to the consultants, Tragsatec, has been done, with the survey now expected to be completed during March 2011. A regional workshop to review the findings of the survey is being planned for late in the second quarter of 2011.

Other Project Activities

The CRFM Secretariat participated in the Third Meeting of the Agriculture Sector Sub-committee of the Comprehensive Disaster Management Coordination and Harmonization Council, on March 10, 2010, in St. Lucia, which reviewed the Terms of Reference for a Consultancy on the State of Praedial Larceny in the Region and a proposal for a Regional Symposium on Agricultural insurance. The Secretariat participated in the Third Meeting of the CDEMA Climate Change Disaster Management Working Group (CCDM-WG), from April 13 - 14, 2010, in Barbados, and in the Caribbean Regional Symposium on Agricultural Insurance, from June 15 - 19, 2010, in Antigua and Barbuda. The CNFO - CU participated in the Symposium.

The CRFM Secretariat assisted in the implementation of the Consultancy on the analysis of praedial larceny in the region and participated in the Regional Consultation on Praedial Larceny, 21 – 22 September 2010, during which it made a presentation: *Managing praedial larceny in fisheries and aquaculture: new technologies and challenges*. It also participated in the Fourth Meeting of the Agriculture Disaster Risk Management Committee ASSC / TMAC, September 23, 2010, St. Lucia.

The Secretariat participated in the FAO / OSPESCA / INCOPESCA meeting on reducing vulnerability of fishing and fish farm communities to natural disasters and climate change, on October 19, 2010, in San Jose, Costa Rica. The meeting was organized and convened by the FAO, OSPESCA and INCOPESCA. Among the participants at the meeting were representatives from FAO, UNISDR, OSPESCA, ECLAC, CDEMA, OLDEPESCA and ICSF. The consultation focused on the mainstreaming of Disaster Risk Management (DRM) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) into small-scale fisheries and aquaculture.

OUTPUT 100 MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT
ACTIVITY 100: Management and Support Output: CRFM (Belize) Conducting and implementing agreed Programmes / Projects activities, and liaising with Member States, the Forum, Executive Committee of the Forum, the Ministerial Council, CARICOM Secretariat, etc. Activity Start: April 1, 2010 End: March 31, 2011
Activity Progress Report Summary Total Budget: US$322,839 Spent: US$278,862 Balance: US$43,977 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

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, April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2011.

Equipment (printer) was procured as stated at **Appendix A: Procurement List.**

Management liaised with Member States to make good on arrears and current contributions to the Budget of the CRFM Secretariat. Thirteen (13) Member States made contributions during the period (April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2011) totaling EC$2,895,858 (US$1,077,249). The arrears decreased from EC$1,531,124 as at March 31, 2010 to EC$1,044,891 as at March 31, 2011. While current contributions made by Member States was EC$1,662,114 (US$618,300) as at March 31, 2010. It is worth noting that the total contribution received above includes contributions by The Bahamas and Trinidad and Tobago for P.Y. 2011 / 2012.

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

(i) Missions to St. Lucia, March and April 2010, and February 2011to discuss and finalize design, and implement Pilot Study activities to evaluate the contribution of FADs to the sustainable management of large pelagic fisheries.

(ii) Sixteenth Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum, April 21, 2010, Belize

(iii) Eighth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum, April 22 – 23, 2010, Belize

(iv) CRFM / UNU-FTP / UWI / UB Advanced Leadership Training Workshop for Heads of National Fisheries Administrations of CRFM Member States, April 25 – 30, 2010

(v) FAD Survey Training Workshop held May 6 – 22, 2010, in St. Lucia.

(vi) Mission to France to participate in the UNESCO / Government of France Fifth Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts and Islands: Ensuring Survival, Preserving Life, Improving Governance, May 3 – 7, 2010

(vii) Mission to Dominica (May 9 – 13, 2010 and St. Lucia May 16 – 20, 2010) to participate in the JICA mission to train data monitoring personnel and fishers in biological, and catch and effort data collection under the pilot project for FAD and Associated Pelagic Fishery Resource Development and Management

(viii) Missions to Trinidad and Tobago to participate in discussions May 2010 and February 2011, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to address Trinidad and Tobago's comments on the Draft Common Fisheries Policy and to Guyana to participate in a meeting (May 21, 2010) at CARISEC, to address matters relating to the implementation of the CARICOM / CRFM / Kingdom of Spain Project

(ix) Mission to Guyana to participate in the CARIFORUM / EU 10^{th} EDF PIF (Project Identification Fiche) Discussion, May 26, 2010

(x) CRFM Sixth Annual Scientific Meeting, June 7 – 16, 2010, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

(xi) Mission to participate in the Caribbean Regional Symposium on Agricultural Insurance, June 15 – 19 , 2010, Antigua and Barbuda

(xii) Mission to Guyana to represent the CRFM at the Ministry of Agriculture National Fisherfolk Convention, June 29, 2010

(xiii) Mission to participate in UWI – CERMES / ACS Expert Consultation on Operationalisation of the Caribbean Sea Commission: Building a Science-Policy Interface for Ocean Governance in the Wider Caribbean, July 7 – 9, 2010, Barbados

(xiv) Mission to participate in EBCD Workshop: Access and Sustainable Fisheries: Building Consensus and Collaboration on ACP Fisheries, 17 July 16 - 17, 2010, Republic of Seychelles

(xv) Second Special Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council, July 28, 2010, St. Lucia

(xvi) Mission to Guyana (August 9 – 14, 2010) to participate in activities being undertaken by the JICA

(xvii) CRFM / UNU-FTP / UWI Fish Stock Assessment Course, August 23 – September 3, 2010, UWI Barbados

(xviii) Mission to Barbados to participate in the UWI CERMES MarGov Project Workshop on the Application of Resilience Thinking to Fisheries Governance in the Eastern Caribbean, September 1 - 2, 2010

(xix) Mission to Panama to participate in the Regional Central America and Caribbean Consultation Meeting: FAO Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of tenure of Land and Other Resources, September 6 - 8, 2010.

(xx) Third Meeting of the Ministerial Council of the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism, October 19, 2010, St. George's, Grenada.

(xxi) Seventeenth Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism, December 8, 2010, Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

(xxii) National CARIFIS training workshop in data entry and querying and reporting using CARIFIS and to assist with improving fisheries data collection activities in Anguilla, held February 7 – 9, 2011.

(xxiii) First Meeting of the CRFM-CLME Consultancy Steering Committee for Eastern Caribbean Flyingfish, held February 10, 2011 in Barbados.

(xxiv) First Meeting of the CRFM - CLME Consultancy Steering Committee for Large Pelagic Fish, held February 10, 2011 in Barbados.

(xxv) Advanced CARIFIS Training Workshop; Montserrat, held February 10 – 11, 2011.

(xxvi) FAD Fishery Management Workshop 1, held February 21 - 25, 2011 in St. Lucia

(xxvii) Executive Director's Mission to Antigua and Barbuda, February 23 – 24, 2011

(xxviii) FAD Fishery Management Workshop 2, held March 14 - 18, 2011 in Dominica.

Resource Mobilisation

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

1. EU Funded Projects:Strengthening Fisheries Management ACP Fish II Project

The EU financed Project, *Strengthening Fisheries Management in ACP countries Fish II (estimated CARICOM States* allocation - 6.5 million Euros) set up its offices within the CRFM Headquarters, Belize. The CRFM Secretariat provided logistical and administrative support to the ACP Fish II Regional Project Coordinator in upgrading and refurbishing the offices for use by its staff and consultants.

Regular meetings were held during the reporting period between the Regional Project Coordinator, Fish II Project and the Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director, and Manager, Finance and Administration (CRFM) to monitor and discuss the status of project implementation.

2. Development of Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations

CRFM Secretariat continued to implement activities under this project pending approval of a new phase of the CTA contract.

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

Under the CARICOM – Kingdom of Spain Cooperation Agreement project – *Diagnostic Study to Determine Poverty Levels in Fishing Communities in the CARICOM Region*, the CRFM Secretariat provided administrative and financial support to the ten participating Member States in the implementation of field activities. The first tranche of funds has been disbursed to all countries except The Bahamas, which has been experiencing difficulties in implementing the CARICOM procedures for receiving and accessing the funds.

The second tranche of funds was disbursed to all Member States to facilitate completion of field activities. The CARICOM Secretariat proposed, and the CRFM Secretariat accepted, that the responsibilities of management and disbursement of the remaining funds under this project be delegated to the CRFM Secretariat. The MOU between CARICOM and CRFM Secretariats has been amended to incorporate the agreed change.

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

Under the CARICOM – Japan Cooperation Agreement this 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. 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. The IC Net Limited consultants have begun work in the region with office space being provided at both the CRFM headquarters in Belize and its Eastern Caribbean Office in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Progress on implementation of activities is on target as planned. Four (4) senior technical staff of the CRFM Secretariat are assigned to this project as counterparts, while Corporate and Administrative support are also provided by the Secretariat.

The CRFM Secretariat collaborated with the IC Net Limited representatives to plan and implement the Second Steering Committee Meeting in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, December 6 - 7, 2010.

6. CRFM Annual Scientific Meeting

To support regional and ICCAT networking efforts at the scientific level, CRFM facilitated the participation and assistance of scientists from Canada, Brazil, UWI, the National Marine Fisheries Service – Southeast Fisheries Science Center (Miami, USA), IFREMER (Martinique), and Instituto Oceanográfico –Universidad de Oriente (Venezuela) during CRFM's Annual Sixth Scientific meeting.

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: April 1, 2010 End: March 31, 2011

Activity Progress Report Summary

Total Budget: US$41,306 Spent: US$48,665

Balance: (US$7,359)

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

General Administration - St. Vincent and the Grenadines

The CRFM Secretariat, Eastern Caribbean Office in St. Vincent and the Grenadines continues to provide support for the implementation of technical, scientific and corporate activities approved in the Annual Work Plan and Budget, April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011.

This office compliments and supports programme and project coordination and implementation of CRFM Work Plan.

OUTPUT 100 MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT
ACTIVITY 150: Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum Output: Recommendations to the Ministerial Council; and approved Work Programme and Budget Activity Start: April 1, 2010 End: March 31, 2011
Activity Progress Report Summary Total Budget: US$77,079 Spent: US$72,046 Balance: US$5,033 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 Eighth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum was held April 22 – 23, 2010, Belize City, Belize. 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:
- Anguilla (Chairman)
- Antigua and Barbuda (Vice Chairman)
- Dominica
- The Bahamas
- Trinidad and Tobago

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

(ii) The draft CRFM Biennial Work Plan and Budgets, April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2012 were endorsed by the Forum and recommended to the Ministerial Council for approval;

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

(iv) Draft Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing was finalized and recommended by the Forum to the Ministerial Council for approval. The Ministerial Council approved the Declaration at its Second Special Meeting under the title: *The Castries (St. Lucia) Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing*.

(v) CRFM's Fifth Annual Scientific Meeting.

(vi) Draft Procedures for recruiting the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director, CRFM Secretariat;

Meetings of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum held its Sixteenth meeting (Belize City, Belize, April 21, 2010). The meeting considered, *inter alia***,** matters arising from the Fifteenth Meeting of the Executive Committee, and the Seventh Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum, and their status of implementation. Such matters included the draft of the Common Fisheries Policy, CRFM Secretariat Draft Biennial Work Plan and Budgets 2010 / 12; the Draft Declaration on IUU Fishing; and draft Procedures for Recruiting the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director, CRFM Secretariat.

The Executive Committee of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum held its Seventeenth Meeting December 8, 2010, Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The meeting considered, *inter alia***,** Update: Conclusions of the Eighth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum; the status of the draft Common Fisheries Policy; Recruitment of the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director, CRFM Secretariat; Review of Staff Performance Appraisal Instrument for CRFM Secretariat; CRFM Half-Yearly Technical Progress and Financial Report April 1 – September 30, 2010, Member States Contribution; Update: Resolution in Respect of Overdraft Facility for the CRFM Secretariat.

Meeting of the Ministerial Council

The Ministerial Council of the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism held its Second Special Meeting (St. Lucia, July 28, 2010). A major output of the meeting was the signing of the **Castries (St. Lucia) Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing.** The Council approved the Biennial Budgets and Work Plan for the CRFM for the years April 2010 to March 2011 and April 2011 to March 2012. The Council also endorsed the timeline and budget for recruiting the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director of the CRFM Secretariat. The Council also reviewed the state of development of the Common Fisheries Policy and agreed that a Multi-disciplinary conference of the CARICOM Member States should be convened jointly by the CRFM and CARICOM Secretariats and charged with the responsibility of finalizing the Draft Agreement on the CFP for resubmission to the Ministerial Council for consideration.

The Third Meeting of the Ministerial Council of the CRFM was held October 19, 2010, St. George's, Grenada. As part of its Agenda the meeting considered a presentation by the Programme Manager, Research and Resource Assessment on Sustainable Development and Conservation of Tuna and

Tuna-like Species in the Caribbean – The Role of ICCAT; CRFM half-Yearly Technical Progress and financial Report April 1 – September 30, 2010; Member States Contribution.

Following the Second Special Meeting of the Ministerial Council, the CRFM Secretariat prepared and submitted a proposal to the EU Funded ACP Fish II Project, to provide funding and technical assistance to convene a Multi-disciplinary Conference involving representatives from Foreign Affairs, Fisheries and Legal Departments of Member States to review and expedite the preparation of the Draft Agreement on the Common Fisheries Policy.

The Proposal was approved by both the ACP Fish II Project Coordinating Unit in Brussels and the European Commission (EC) in August 2010, and a tender launched to recruit a suitable consulting company to undertake the assignment.

The CRFM Secretariat collaborated with the EC and the Regional Coordinator of the ACP Fish II Project to plan and implement the proposed Multi-disciplinary Conference of Member States to be held in Guyana, April 12 - 14, 2011.

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 the coordination of work plans and activities for implementation.

Activity Start: April 1, 2010 End: March 31, 2011

Activity Progress Report Summary

Total Budget: US$72,163 Spent: US$62,932

Balance: US$9,231

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, 2010 / 11, the CRFM Secretariat continued to support and enhance 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 and regional projects being implemented; 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, 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 entitled *"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.

The Study commenced in March, 2009, immediately after the appointment by JICA of IC Net Limited as the Japanese Executing Agency for the Study. IC Net has been working in collaboration with the CRFM Secretariat to deliver the outputs of the Project.

Inception Mission

The Japanese Executing Agency (IC Net) visited the 13 target CARICOM states between May –June 2009 to meet with key stakeholders, confirm the main activities to be undertaken by the Study, and to finalize the Inception Report. The Team also used the opportunity of the visits to collect general information regarding the situation of fisheries and aquaculture sector in each CARICOM Member State visited. The Inception Report sets out the background and purpose of the study, the status of fisheries in the region, the methods of implementation, including the conduct of a baseline survey and pilot projects to test the feasibility of various options for development and management of the sector, and the timeline for implementation of the Study. The Inception Report was finalized and distributed to the CRFM Member States in July 2009. Copies may be downloaded from the CRFM website at www.caricom-fisheries.com.

Baseline survey

Following the completion of the Inception Report a comprehensive baseline survey of the fisheries sector was conducted in the participating States between August – November 2009, by the Japanese Executing Agency, IC Net, supported by a Regional consulting firm, Trevor Hamilton and Associates, and the CRFM Secretariat Staff. Field visits were made to each participating Member State to obtain data and information relevant to the various components of the Study and to analyse the policy, legal and institutional arrangements for fisheries management and development.

The survey was conducted in accordance with the main components of the Study, i.e. "Pelagic fishery", "Aquaculture", "Fisheries Statistics", and "Community based resource management". The Study team member visited the target countries and investigated the needs and priorities of National Fisheries Departments as well as local fishing communities. Problem analysis, objective analysis and target group discussions were conducted. A long list of potential pilot projects was prepared. Draft Country reports, and draft sector reports on the components mentioned above were prepared.

The Draft Country reports were submitted to the respective countries for review and comments in March 2010. The Draft reports are now being finalized for publication by September 2010.

Project Steering Committee

The First Meeting of the Project Steering Committee (Heads of National Fisheries Departments / Divisions, Japanese Experts and CRFM Staff) was convened during December 3 – 4, 2009 in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The Committee: (i) reviewed project activities to date; (ii) reviewed the Preliminary Draft Master Plan; and (iii) recommended a short list of pilot projects for consideration by JICA for implementation during the next phase of the Project beginning February 2010.

Preliminary Master Plan

Based on the results and recommendations of the Inception Report and baseline survey mentioned above, a Preliminary Master Plan was prepared and circulated to Member States in November 2009. A summary of the plan was presented and discussed at the First Project Steering Committee Meeting in December 2009. The Preliminary Plan was reviewed and finalized in March 2010 based on comments and suggestions received from Member States and JICA. The Preliminary Master Plan was distributed to States and interested stakeholders at the end of March to April 2010.

The Preliminary Master Plan consists of 4 Parts. In Part I, the current state of the coastal reef resources, pelagic fishery development, aquaculture development, fishery statistics and information systems, and marketing and trade are analyzed and evaluated. An overview of the situation within the fisheries of participating CARICOM Member States is provided to highlight and help to understand the issues, challenges and opportunities in the region as a whole. Part I also contains recommended actions and reforms for overcoming the issues and challenges within respective sectors and subject areas considered during the baseline survey.

Part II of the Preliminary Master Plan deals with Community Based Resource Management (CBRM), Environmental and Social Considerations, and Regional Cooperation, which are important cross-cutting subjects for sustainable fishery resource management and development in the Region.

In Part III, a grand strategy for the Master Plan is presented based on discussions in Parts I and II. Finally in Part IV of the Preliminary Master Plan, three Pilot Projects are proposed to verify and test the socio-economic and ecological feasibility and appropriateness of this grand strategy.

The overall objective of the Study is the preparation of a Master Plan for the Fisheries Sector. The current Preliminary Master Plan will, therefore, be reviewed and elaborated during the next 18 months using the results of on-going research and data gathering activities, including the results and recommendations of the Pilot Projects (see details at Section 2 - 4 below). Any errors in the current

document will therefore be corrected, and new data will replace the old with comments and contributions from relevant countries and organizations. The final Master Plan is targeted for completion in February 2012.

Pilot Projects

Following the First Project Steering Committee Meeting held in St. Vincent and the Grenadines in December 2009, and follow up communication among the CRFM Secretariat, the Japanese Executing Agency and JICA, 3 pilot projects were selected for implementation in 6 countries between April 2010 and October 2011. Although these are being implemented in only 6 countries, they are nonetheless meant to benefit other CARICOM States. For example, the Aquaculture Pilot in Jamaica will provide training for Fisheries Officers and Community Extension Officers from CARICOM States with an interest in aquaculture development. Furthermore, the results and lessons learnt from these Pilot Projects will be shared with the other CARICOM Member Countries through planned workshops.

The Pilot Projects and Countries where they are being implemented are:

1. Pelagic Fishery Resource Development and Management using Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) in St. Lucia and Dominica.
2. Development of Fisheries Statistical System Models in Guyana and St. Vincent and the Grenadines
3. Small scale aquaculture training in Jamaica and low cost small-scale aquaculture development in Belize

Preparation of Work plan and MOUs for the Pilot Projects

The Japanese Experts supported by CRFM Staff visited the 6 countries in which pilot projects are to be implemented between February - July 2010 to develop detailed workplans for each project in collaboration with the Staff of the National Fisheries Departments / Divisions.

During the missions the Japanese and CRFM teams:

- explained the Preliminary Master Plan and the process of developing the Final Master Plan;
- discussed and clarified the arrangements for implementation of the Pilot Project (including country contribution and commitment) and plans for dissemination of the results;
- discussed and prepared draft Memoranda of Understanding regarding the implementation of the Pilot project; and
- elaborated detailed work plans for the pilot projects.

The MOU between IC Net, CRFM and Member States regarding the implementation of the Pilot Projects have been executed for all pilot Projects and implementation of the agreed work plans are now underway.

The Japanese experts and CRFM Staff are responsible for monitoring and providing technical assistance to the Fisheries Departments/Divisions regarding the implementation of the planned activities during the next 12 months.

The results and lessons learnt from the Pilot Projects along with additional information gathered during the Study will be incorporated into the final Master Plan to be completed in February 2012.

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. The Secretariat facilitates the negotiations among the countries by mobilising resources and supporting the activities of the working groups and regional meetings called by the Member States to elaborate the content of the Policy.

After nearly six (6) years of negotiations among the countries and failure to arrive an agreement on the CFP&R, the First Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council in January 2009, reviewed the status of the CFP&R, considered the outstanding issues and the Legal Opinion submitted by the Office of the General Counsel of the CARICOM Secretariat. The Council then decided to separate the development of the Common Fisheries Policy and the Implementing Regime and to prepare them sequentially, focusing first on elaborating the Policy, and after agreement is reached, attention would be given to elaborating the Regime through a series of protocols to the Policy.

The Ministerial Council also agreed on the process and timeline for separating and preparing the Common Fisheries Policy. The process included the establishment of a Multi-disciplinary Technical Working Group (MTWG) to consider proposals from Member States and separate the Policy from the Regime. The outputs of the MTWG were to be submitted to a Special meeting of the Forum in April 2009 for consideration. The Revised Agreement produced by the Special Forum would be considered by the Ministerial Council in May 2010.

The reason for this sequential approach to addressing the mandate of the Heads of Government was to overcome disagreements and delays arising from the sensitive issues regarding the regime including the proposed common fishing zone, access rules and authority concerning conservation and management of the resources within the zone. By Separating the Policy from the Regime, the Ministerial Council had hoped to demonstrate progress in agreeing on the Policy issues, and would afterwards address the more difficult issues concerning the implementing regime through the elaboration of protocols to the Policy.

The Agreement Establishing the Common Fisheries Policy

In keeping with the decision of the Ministerial Council, the CRFM Secretariat in collaboration with the CARICOM Secretariat convened a meeting of the Multi-disciplinary Technical Working Group on the Common Fisheries Policy on March 31 to April 1, 2009 at the CARICOM Secretariat, Turkeyen, Guyana. The Working Group which comprised fisheries and legal experts from Member States supported by CARICOM and CRFM Staff reviewed the available documentation and

prepared a revised instrument entitled, "Draft Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy," incorporating the policy issues while omitting the regime issues which were considered contentious.

The "Draft Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries" produced by the Working Group was then reviewed and amended by the Fourth Special Meeting of the CRFM Forum held in Roseau, Dominica on April 20, 2009 . The output of the Fourth Special Forum Meeting was a, "Draft Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy." The Draft Agreement was further refined by the Consultant engaged by the CRFM Secretariat (Professor Winston Anderson) based on comments received from Member States and Regional Organisations as agreed by the Meeting, and resubmitted to the Member States in preparation for the First Special Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council on May 12, 2009.

The First Special Meeting of the Ministerial Council of the CRFM was convened on May 12, 2009 at the NIS Building, St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Although seven Member States were present this was not enough to constitute a quorum. The Member States present agreed that in the absence of a quorum, the meeting should continue to discuss the issues and make recommendations which should be circulated to all Members of the Ministerial Council for consideration.

On the basis of this decision the Meeting of Ministers reviewed and amended the Draft Agreement prepared by the Special Meeting of the CRFM Forum. The Draft Agreement was edited by the Ministers present in real time, as they discussed and agreed on the issues, with Professor Winston Anderson making the changes (highlighted using track change) while the Draft Agreement was projected onto a screen. The output of the Meeting was a "May 2009 Draft Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Common Fisheries Policy".

In accordance with the decision of the Meeting of Ministers on May 12, 2009, the output of the Meeting of Ministers was submitted to the Twenty-Seventh Meeting of the COTED, May 14 – 15, 2009, Georgetown, Guyana. The Report and Draft Agreement was also circulated to Member States in May 2009 for consideration and consultation as appropriate, and comments to facilitate further refinements prior to the Second Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council, which was tentatively scheduled for October/November 2009.

The "Draft Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Common Fisheries Policy" dated May 2009, lays down the objectives to be achieved, and the basic principles regarding sustainable use, conservation, management and development of the aquatic resources under the sovereignty or jurisdiction of Member States of the Community, in accordance with the mandate of the Conference, relevant principles from the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas, and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and associated instruments, such as the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. It is a comprehensive framework Agreement aimed at establishing a cooperative platform for the transformation of the fisheries sector to ensure a better and more secure future for present and future generations. Its aim is to create new opportunities for economic growth and prosperity, and bring greater security and hope to the tens of thousands of people who depend upon the region's living aquatic resources for their livelihoods. It also provides for the elaboration of Protocols which will provide the Regime containing detailed operational content for the Policy.

The Second Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council was convened on March 18, 2010 in Paramaribo, Suriname. The Government of Trinidad and Tobago informed the Meeting that they had submitted comments, "which were, *inter alia*, intended to clarify and refine some matters in the draft agreement." After a brief discussion on the CFP, the Ministerial Council agreed that the CRFM Forum should be convened to consider these issues among other things, and, "as regards the Trinidad and Tobago suggested amendments,…"

(i) if these were acceptable to Member States they would be incorporated into the common fisheries policy; and

(ii) if these were not acceptable, the CRFM would engage the Division of Treaties, International Affairs and Legal Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Trinidad and Tobago with a view to facilitating all concerned parties / resolving differences and determining the way forward;"

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

The CFP was discussed during the 8th Meeting of the CRFM Forum in Belize City, Belize April 22-23, 2010. The Meeting agreed to use the May 12, 2009 version of the "Draft Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Common Fisheries Policy" as the base document (hereinafter the Base Document) and to review it paragraph by paragraph in light of the submissions made by the representative of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago. However, the review process was further complicated when the Representative of the Government of Barbados tabled a document with extensive additional comments and recommendations for modifying the Base Document.

All Member States present at the Meeting with the exception of Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago supported the Base Document.

After much discussion and limited progress in agreeing on the proposed changes requested by the Governments of Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados, the Meeting decided that the CRFM Secretariat supported by the Legal Consultant should meet with the Government of Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados to further discuss and narrow the differences, and update the Draft Agreement in light of the discussions.

The CRFM Secretariat met with the Government of Trinidad and Tobago on May 18, 2010, and the Government of Barbados on May 20, 2010 to review and discuss their comments on the Base Document. Following the meetings the Government of Barbados submitted revised comments on the Draft Agreement on June 15, 2010, whereas Trinidad and Tobago submitted revised comments on Friday, June 18, 2010. Written comments were also submitted by the Government of Suriname on June 11, 2010, and by WIDECAST on May 31, 2010.

The CRFM Secretariat with the support of the Legal Consultant has reviewed the submissions received and started the process of amending the Base Document by incorporating those changes that were accepted by the 8th Meeting of the Forum (April 22 – 23, 2010) or deemed to be refinements of the existing document.

While the submissions of Suriname are in the nature of refinements to the Base Document, key

changes proposed by Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados are seeking substantial revisions which would result in fundamental changes (a rewrite) to the Base Document. These fundamental changes have not been included in the revised Draft Agreement because they are being resisted by other Member States that prefer to use the Base Document that they had previously endorsed.

The Second Special Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council was held in Castries St. Lucia on July 28, 2010. After reviewing the state of development of the CFP and the nature of the comments submitted by Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, and Suriname, the Council agreed that the CRFM and CARICOM Secretariats should convene a Multi-disciplinary conference of the CARICOM Member States involving Foreign Affairs, Legal and Fisheries officials to negotiate and resolve all outstanding issues and complete the preparation of the Draft Agreement on the CFP for resubmission to the next meeting of the Ministerial Council for consideration.

The Third Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council was held in St. George's, Grenada on October 19, 2010. The Council agreed to work towards the finalization of the Common Fisheries Policy for CARICOM and mandated the Secretariat to seek funding for a Multi-disciplinary Conference of Member States representatives to work towards that goal. Financing was secured under the EU funded Fish II Project and the conference is scheduled to be held in Guyana, April 12 - 14, 2011.

PLANNING

Background:

A Comprehensive Biennial Work Plan and Budgets was presented to, and approved by the Ministerial Council (July 28, 2010). The plan captures all the activities that are to be implemented, and identifies the sources of financing to differentiate between our core budget (Member States' contribution), and donor supported project expenditures. The new strategic shift from **manager** to **partner** in the implementation process will result in the CRFM Secretariat staff being engaged in various roles – **leader** in some cases; **support** in others.

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:
  - Research and Data Analysis for Policy Formulation and Decision Making
  - Preparation for Global Competitiveness
  - Resource Assessment and Management
  - Human Resource Development and Institutional Strengthening
  - Strengthening of Fishers Organisations and Improved Community Participation
  - Promotion of the Expansion and Utilisation of Un-utilised and Underutilized Aquatic Resources
  - Development and Promotion of Aquaculture
  - Development and Promotion of Risk Reduction Programmes for Fishers

- Development and Promotion of Mechanisms for Prevention and Resolution of Conflicts.

- The CRFM Secretariat prepared CRFM Secretariat Biennial Work Plan 2010 / 12 in consultation with the Executive Committee and the Eight Forum Meeting, April, 2010 in Belize. This draft CRFM Secretariat Biennial Work Plan was developed against the background of the new Second Medium Term Plan; and the expected start-up, in 2010, of the field activities under the EU funded Programme for Strengthening Fisheries Management in ACP Countries (ACP Fish II Project) and the GEF funded Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project..

- Individual staff Work Plans for the period April 1, 2010 to September 30, 2010 and October 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011 were prepared.

- Quarterly implementation reports were prepared by staff during P.Y. 2010 / 11 to facilitate monitoring.

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: April 1, 2010 End: March 31, 2011

Activity Progress Report Summary

Activity Budget

Total Budget: US$105,900 Spent: US$81,787

Balance: US$24,113

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 fisheries sector has been making significant contributions to the region's economies through job creation, foreign exchange earnings and savings, food security, economic growth and general socio-economic improvements, especially in rural communities. Dependence on this sector will increase in the future as the role of traditional agriculture decreases. However, because fisheries management systems have been traditionally weak, it is of vital importance to install and / or improve fisheries management decision-making and planning on the basis of a sound data collection and management system. This programme is designed to strengthen the data collection and management capabilities of the CRFM community through: training of fisheries personnel in data collection systems; expanding and improving the quality of the data collection systems; harmonizing the data collection systems to facilitate the establishment of a sound regional fisheries database; improving the institutional capabilities to coordinate data collection and management; and improving stakeholders' attitude to support the development and sustainability of data collection systems.

The Statistics and Information Programme will in programme year 2010 / 11, benefit from the Iceland Funded Project on Training in Statistics and Stock Assessment, and the JICA Funded Project to prepare a Master Plan on Sustainable Use of Fisheries Resources for Coastal Community Development in the Caribbean.

Fisheries Master Plan for CARICOM - Regional Data Base:

Background:

This activity will benefit from a component of the JICA Funded Project to prepare a Master Plan on Sustainable Use of Fisheries Resources for Coastal Community Development in the Caribbean. The project was initiated in 2009 (see WBS 501.2 for more information), and an inception mission and baseline survey was completed during the latter half of 2009.

One of the components of the baseline survey was the review and assessment of the national and regional fisheries information systems of the CRFM. Based on the findings of the inception mission, baseline survey and regional consultations, the following decisions were taken with regards to the Regional Database component of the project:

The CRFM Member States were classified into three groups according to the level of development of the fisheries statistical system (FSS) being used by the country and the country's internal capacity to improve the system.

- **Group A**: Barbados, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago.
  These Member States have the most developed national FSS relative to the other CRFM Member States.
- **Group B**: Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Dominica. These Member States fall in the mid-range relative to other CRFM Member States, and require further development of the national FSS.
- **Group C**: Guyana, Haiti, and Suriname. These are Member States with the weakest FSS and facing the greatest challenges improving the systems using their own technical and financial resources.

Two FSS pilot projects will be conducted under the project, one in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, to develop and refine recommendations for the **Group B** countries, and one in Guyana, to develop and refine recommendations for the **Group C** countries.

The findings of the pilot projects will be used to refine recommendations for improvement of national and regional fisheries information systems and prepare a draft policy framework for establishing a regional fisheries database, and ultimately for the formulation of a Master Plan on sustainable use of fisheries resources for coastal community development in the Caribbean.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- During the reporting period the Secretariat participated in and provided support for activities being undertaken by the JICA / IC Net statistical team, through counter-parting

arrangements. Four missions were undertaken to St. Vincent and the Grenadines and one to Guyana. During the national missions the Secretariat participated in meetings at various levels, providing resources particularly on maintenance and management of fisheries information systems in Member States and CARIFIS implementation in the region.

- The Secretariat assisted with the development of two model FSS in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Guyana. Activities undertaken for the reporting period are as follows:
  - The respective fisheries sampling systems were reviewed and suggestions for improvements were proposed.
  - The proposed sampling programs are being tested, and will be assessed by the end of 2011.
  - The data collection forms were reviewed and revised based on the proposed sampling programs and the respective data collectors have been trained to use the revised formats.
  - Fishery data log notes were also introduced for testing.
  - Biological data sampling was restarted in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
  - The species on which biological data are being collected are: black fin snapper, red hind and dolphin fish.
  - Plans were also put in place to strengthen fishery cooperatives, fisheries companies and fishers to assist with fishery data collection where possible.

- Under the statistical pilot project CARIFIS was fully implemented in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. This included the transfer of the legacy TIP, LRS and Excel data to CARIFIS and the provision of two computers, an external hard drive, a printer and a wireless network system for connectivity. Guyana was also provided with two computers, a printer and a network system to assist with analysis of fisheries information.

- A CARIFIS data entry training workshop for fisheries staff of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Fisheries Division was held; February 7 – 10, 2011. Fifteen (15) staff members were trained.

- The statistical pilot project also provided a CARIFIS Training of Trainers Workshop; held October 19 – 21, 2010. The Workshop provided training for the provision of CARIFIS technical support. Two persons were trained one from St. Vincent and the Grenadines and one from the CRFM Secretariat.

Training and Technical Assistance to Develop the Sampling Systems for Catch, Effort, Biological and Other Fisheries Related Data

Background:

In its ongoing effort to assist Member States with the implementation of the activities identified in their Fisheries Management Plans, the CRFM Secretariat has assisted the Fisheries Divisions of Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands, Guyana, St. Lucia, Montserrat and Grenada 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 evaluations

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. In addition, reviews of the data and information systems of the 13 CARICOM Member States participating in the JICA funded Study were done as part of the Baseline Study between August – November 2009. Based on the recommendations from these reviews the Secretariat will provide assistance to Member States in the form of training workshops on the development and implementation of appropriate sampling systems for catch, effort, biological and other fisheries related data.

In programme year 2010 / 11 CRFM Member States will also be provided with training in Stock Assessment and Fisheries Statistics, under the MOU: CRFM / UNU Fisheries Training Institute (WBS: 540.10). The Secretariat will assist with coordination and training activities in the workshop.

The Statistics and Information Analyst with lead responsibility for this programme will also participate in the Annual CRFM Scientific Meetings to provide support to the Member States.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

Two Member States; Anguilla and Montserrat, were provided with workshop sessions during which Data Managers and other fisheries personnel were trained to develop and implement appropriate sampling systems for catch, effort, biological and other fisheries related data.

- Anguilla was provided with training and technical assistance to develop their sampling systems for catch, effort, biological and other fisheries related data, during a national mission conducted February 7 – 9, 2011. Seven members of staff were trained.

- Montserrat was provided with training and technical assistance to develop their sampling systems for catch, effort, biological and other fisheries related data, during a national mission conducted February 10 – 11, 2011. Three members of staff were trained.

Caribbean Fisheries Information System (CARIFIS)

The startup date for implementation of CARIFIS in Member States was January 31, 2004. Services provided by the CRFM Secretariat to Member States for the implementation of CARIFIS included: the provision of computers for operation of the software, compilation and distribution of training material to support the use of CARIFIS (including the development of the CARIFIS Training CD's), in-country training in the use of CARIFIS and in-country provision of technical assistance for the implementation of CARIFIS (including review and transfer of legacy TIP and LRS data to CARIFIS).
Since programme year 2006 / 2007, the CRFM Secretariat at the request of Member States has continued to provide technical support towards implementation of CARIFIS.

In programme years 2010 / 11 and 2011 / 12, the CRFM Secretariat will continue to provide technical assistance and training in CARIFIS to the Member States. A number of national missions will be undertaken to address the following:

(i) training of fisheries staff in data entry and querying and reporting using CARIFIS;

(ii) provision of CARIFIS technical support;

(iii) identification of other technical needs to be addressed by a consultant; and

(iv) analysis of hindrances to successful implementation of CARIFIS at the national level for corrective actions.

Assistance will be provided to Member States based on the needs identified and documented in the CARIFIS Matrix prepared during the 2008 / 09 programme year, the recent reviews conducted during the baseline surveys under the JICA Funded Project, and on the request of the Member States.

Under the JICA project, fisheries databases (where possible and appropriate) will be implemented in the two member states (St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Guyana) as part of the pilot study for the regional database component of the project.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- During the reporting period six Member States were targeted, five of these received specific help towards CARIFIS implementation.

- The six Member States contacted and provided with assistance towards continued implementation of CARIFIS during the period were: Anguilla, Jamaica, Guyana, St. Lucia, Montserrat and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Guyana was unable to use the assistance offered.

- The Secretariat implemented national CARIFIS training workshops for Member States Anguilla; February 7 – 9, 2011 and Montserrat; February 10 – 11, 2011. The workshops provided technical support in implementing CARIFIS and training fisheries staff in data entry, querying and reporting. A total of ten fisheries personnel were trained; seven in Anguilla and three in Montserrat.

- In 2009 / 10 the CARIFIS system in Jamaica experienced major difficulties and the secretariat made various interventions, including: technical advice, provision of software, and facilitating expert assistance. During this reporting period the Secretariat facilitated collaboration between the CARIFIS expert (Dr. Medley) and Jamaica to get the system functioning. A long term plan is also being developed which could involve the possible upgrade of the CARIFIS system of Jamaica.

- St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines were also provided with continued training during the period: St. Lucia; directly following the Annual Scientific Meeting and St. Vincent and the Grenadines through the JICA project.

Monitor and provision of technical assistance (training and support)

This activity is intended to provide technical support and advice on an ad hoc basis to strengthen the data collection and management capabilities of the CRFM countries.

Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:

- The Secretariat assisted Anguilla in reviewing data collected and analysis done for year 2009. Suggestions were made for the improvement of the data collection system and the statistical analysis done on the data.

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: April 1, 2010 End: March 31, 2011
Activity Progress Report Summary **Activity Budget** Total Budget: US$482,501 Spent: US$264,378 Balance: US$281,123 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.

400: Fisheries Research and Resource Assessment

As noted in the Second Medium Term Plan, this programme is intended to nurture the appropriate scientific-based management environment necessary for responsible fishing management, planning, and decision-making. To this end, the 400 activities focus specifically on research and resource assessment activities for strengthening the scientific basis for fisheries management, as well as activities aimed at improving statistical monitoring and the region's pool of skills in fisheries science.

At the CRFM level, the five CRFM Fisheries Working Groups have been active since 2004, and have been successful in promoting collaboration among national fisheries authorities, thereby ensuring coordinated approaches to research and resource assessment among Member States. These resource Working Groups, together with the CRFM Data, Methods and Training Working group (DMTWG) established in 2009, face the challenge of keeping pace with developing approaches in

research, fishery assessment and the formulation of management advice, particularly the challenge of customizing the ecosystem approach to fisheries management for CRFM situations. On-site annual scientific meetings have facilitated the activities of these CRFM technical groups and their progress in meeting these challenges.

Working Group activities also involve activities to be undertaken in the period between annual scientific meetings (inter-sessional activities), that provide inputs for completion of specific proposed tasks during the annual on-site meetings. Such activities and tasks can include, *inter alia*: data analysis, research, assessment, and provision of management advice on key fisheries resources.

The Research and Resource Assessment Programme for 2010 / 12 continues to include a component for provision of technical and management support to Member States participating in ICCAT, given the overlapping mandate in respect of large pelagic fish resources. Specific donor-funded projects, commenced in 2009, will be continuing their activities through to 2012, and will facilitate the completion of various research studies aimed at improving both the assessment and management processes.

401: Technical Inputs (Emoluments)

Specialised technical expertise was required to implement planned activities in research and resource assessment, and related essential remunerations were granted.

401.4: Provision of Technical and Management Support for participation in ICCAT

ICCAT is the RFMO with responsibility for coordinating the conservation and management of tuna and tuna-like species within the Atlantic Ocean and adjacent seas, including the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico. In view of the shared nature of these resources, the CRFM continued to build cooperation with ICCAT through the observer status afforded to CARICOM. Such cooperation has included: active and regular participation in key ICCAT activities for the purpose of keeping CRFM States informed about ICCAT's progress in evaluating tuna and tuna-like resources and agreed management recommendations to address the conservation needs identified, and; provision of technical and management assistance to States participating in ICCAT activities.

Objectives

(i) To continue, expand and strengthen CRFM participation in ICCAT for the purposes of promoting and protecting the development and management interests and objectives of tuna and tuna-like fisheries of CRFM Member States.

(ii) To facilitate an improved institutional framework for the coordinated management of tuna and tuna-like fisheries at the national, regional and international levels.

Activities and Inputs

As in previous years, the CRFM Secretariat provided technical guidance to countries with regard to: fulfillment of reporting obligations to ICCAT; monitoring and reporting to countries on developments at ICCAT at both the scientific and management levels; participation and negotiation

strategies; preparation of research proposals for ICCAT-sponsorship.

The Secretariat completed and submitted the 2010 CARICOM report to ICCAT, which was prepared on behalf of Dominica, Grenada and St. Lucia, which are not members of ICCAT but which actively fish for species of interest to ICCAT. For these three countries, the 2010 CARICOM provided information about: the characteristics of their tuna and tuna-like fisheries, technological developments including increasing use of FADs, their tuna and tuna-like fishing activities during 2009, and current regulations for achieving sustainable management of these resources. The 2010 CARICOM report also updated ICCAT about CRFM activities in research, assessment and management of tuna and tuna-like resources, including: CRFM's large pelagic consultancy contribution to the CLME project; CRFM's collaboration with JICA for sustainable development of FAD fisheries, and; CRFM's 2010 evaluations of two regionally important species, the dolphinfish and blackfin tuna.

The Secretariat prepared an information paper in October 2010 for consideration by the CRFM Ministerial Council, and to provide guidance for review of ICCAT participation strategies at both the national and regional level. In November 2010, the Secretariat participated in the Seventeenth regular meeting of ICCAT, during which it provided technical assistance to countries during negotiations for: a catch allocation scheme for north Atlantic swordfish, proposed recommendations for conserving vulnerable shark species, and a proposed recommendation for conserving Atlantic sailfish that did not take into account the food use of that resource.

The Secretariat also provided specific technical assistance to Belize, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago for the preparation and submission of two port sampling proposals, aimed at attracting sponsorship from ICCAT.

Outputs

- Continued CRFM and CARICOM cooperation with ICCAT, including submission of the 2009 tuna and tuna-like fishery statistics and compliance data for incorporation into the ICCAT database and for consideration in ICCAT assessment and management activities.

- Completion and submission of the 2010 CARICOM Report to ICCAT, providing updated information on tuna and tuna-like fishery activities in those CARICOM countries fishing these resources, but which are not members of ICCAT.

- Completion of information paper on ICCAT (background, membership benefits, CARICOM's experience and achievements, way forward), which facilitated deliberations on ICCAT participation by the CRFM Ministerial Council in October 2010.

- Active representation and participation in the 17th Regular Meeting of ICCAT in November 2010.

- Report prepared in December 2010 and circulated to Member States, providing annual updated advice on management measures adopted by ICCAT for fisheries resources of international concern.

- Technical support for completion of revised port sampling proposals and submission to ICCAT

Achievements during the reporting period

- Continued cooperation between CRFM/CARICOM and ICCAT, including technical assistance to countries to ensure fulfillment of reporting obligations to ICCAT.

- Approval by ICCAT of revised port sampling proposals submitted by Belize, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago.

- ICCAT updated of tuna and tuna-fishery activities of CARICOM States that are not members of ICCAT, via completion and submission of 2010 annual CARICOM report to ICCAT.

- Endorsement by CRFM Ministerial Council to proceed with a review of ICCAT participation strategies at the national and regional levels.

- Contributed positively to ICCAT fishery management negotiations for regulatory measures for north Atlantic swordfish, certain shark species and sailfish, which resulted in more practical measures being adopted.

- Circulation to CRFM States of all ICCAT correspondence dispatched to ICCAT Contracting and Co-operating Parties.

- CRFM States fully updated of developments within ICCAT.

410.2 / 412: To Assess the Potential for Developing or Expanding Large Pelagic Fisheries

The sustainable development and management of large pelagic fisheries has been identified as a priority area for development by CARICOM Member States through the COTED (Proposal for the CRFM) 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 are developing 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. The approved JICA study to formulate a master plan for sustainable resource use by coastal communities commenced in 2009, and will continue in both programme year 2010 / 11 and programme year 2011 / 12. The pilot studies to assess the potential for developing or expanding large pelagic fisheries are expected to be completed during programme year 2011 / 12, and these outputs will inform the development of the master plan on sustainable use of fisheries resources for coastal community development.

Objective

This project is intended to contribute to the sustainable development and management of under-utilized and unutilized offshore pelagic resources, and to increase development and employment opportunities within the sector. In so doing, the project will contribute to food security, poverty alleviation and hence social and economic stability in the CARICOM Member States.

Activities and Inputs

A CRFM – JICA - CFTDI team was established to provide oversight for implementation of this pilot project. Field work commenced in April 2010, with the completion of detailed stakeholder surveys at the selected pilot study sites of Dominica and St. Lucia. These two countries had been selected for the pilot studies owing to their direct and immediate interest and active involvement in promoting FAD fisheries. Trial FADs have been constructed using local materials, and these designs have since been further modified, based on the experiences gained from the project so far, and the advice of the fishers using the FADs. The project delivered training in FAD construction, deployment, maintenance, and monitoring of the performance and durability of the FAD structures deployed, as well as the associated fishing operations. The project reviewed and adapted national fishery statistical monitoring forms in collaboration with the fisheries authorities in the two countries. Field trials to test the proposed methodologies are in progress, and 4 FAD management workshops have been held in the two countries to review work progress, to consider options for addressing the ongoing challenges at the monitoring and management levels, and to provide training in processing of diamondback squid that is an under-utilized resource also harvested around FADs.

Outputs

- Report of stakeholder surveys completed in April 2010, with recommendation for pilot study implementation.
- Completion of 5 training and progress review workshops.
- Project progress and workshop reports.

Achievements during the reporting period

- Obtained information from stakeholders about: the present nature and extent of FAD fishing operations, approaches to monitoring and management of the FADs, and FAD fishery performance trends. This information was used to finalize the pilot study design.
- Data collection forms, adapted to incorporate FAD fishery development activities.
- Local FAD fishers trained in FAD construction, deployment maintenance, and in monitoring of FAD performance in respect of design performance and durability.
- Fisheries officers from St. Lucia, Dominica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines trained in FAD fishery data collection for resource assessment and management purposes.

- Work progress reviewed, and recommendations developed for addressing ongoing challenges.

410.3: 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 maintain and continuously improve the technical and information base for informing management planning and decision-making with regard to reef and slope fisheries in 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 will continued to be coordinated by the Secretariat.

Activities and Inputs

In programme year 2010 / 11, an on-site meeting of the RSWG was convened during the Sixth Annual CRFM Scientific Meeting noted under Activity 420.

Outputs

The outputs of this project activity included:

- Report of 2010 RSWG meeting.
- Reef fishery report for Montserrat.

Achievements during the reporting period

- An on site meeting of the RSWG was convened in 2010.
- Officers from participating member states were trained in additional data analysis using R software
- Examination of data on the red hind and queen triggerfish fisheries of Montserrat.
- Recommendations on the way forward regarding data and continued monitoring of the red hind and queen triggerfish fisheries of Montserrat.

411: Regional Network Partnership

Objectives

At the research and resource assessment level, this activity is designed to strengthen key networking arrangements and partnerships within CRFM States, and among national and regional institutions and other bodies capable of making a relevant contribution to the success of regionally coordinated fisheries research and resource assessment work. It facilitates peer collaboration and also avoids unnecessary duplication of effort within the CRFM region where human and financial resources are limited.

Activities and Inputs

In programme year 2010 / 11, key networking / partnership arrangements with agencies/ institutions such as UWI, IMA, IFREMER (Martinique), Instituto Oceanográfico –Universidad de Oriente (Venezuela), NMFS SEFC (Miami, Fl, USA), University of Dalhousie (CIDA internship programme), and UNU-FTP (Iceland), organizations such as FAO and JICA, and projects such as CLME, continued, aimed at strengthening collaboration and coordination in respect of research and resource assessment activities:

(i) As in previous years since 2004, scientists at the NMFS SEFSC provided assistance with assessment analyses conducted during the Sixth Annual Scientific Meeting.

(ii) The Sixth Annual Scientific meeting enjoyed broad representation and participation, involving scientists from Canada, Brazil, UWI, the NMFS SEFSC (Miami, USA), IFREMER (Martinique), and Instituto Oceanográfico –Universidad de Oriente (Venezuela). The representatives from Brazil, IFREMER, and the Instituto Oceanográfico –Universidad de Oriente contributed data and research information on the dolphinfish and blackfin tuna fisheries operating in their areas.

(iii) The joint CRFM / UNU-FTP / UWI course in fish stock assessment commenced, with consideration of options for long-term incorporation into the CRFM and UWI systems.

(iv) CRFM Secretariat continued to provide technical inputs into regional initiatives such as CLME and the JICA regional studies (further details provided under Activities 410.2 / 412, 414.2 and 414.7).

(v) A MOU between CRFM and IMA was prepared with the aim of resuming regional-level support for the fish age and growth research conducted by IMA, and this MOU is currently being reviewed by the IMA.

(vi) FAO, along with UWI, OECS, and key range States, participated in the CRFM-CLME Consultancy Steering Committee meetings held during February 10 – 11, 2011(further details of the CLME TDA component are provided under Activities 414.2 and 414.7).

(vii) The University of Dalhousie, in collaboration CRFM, obtained approval for CRFM to host a 3-year CIDA internship to review and improve the supporting data and information systems

for large pelagic and small coastal pelagic fish resources. This internship commenced in January 2011.

Outputs

- Continued training of national fisheries staff in statistical analysis resource assessment through collaboration with non-CRFM scientific counterparts, and through the UNU-FTP training course.

- Completed improved evaluation of dolphinfish fishery of Eastern Caribbean.

- Prepared MOU for regional support for operation of regional fish age and growth laboratory at IMA, which will make available information on fish age and growth, required for incorporation into priority assessments requested by Member States.

- Agreement on CLME activities to undertaken by CRFM, and technical products to be used for informing the establishment of multiple-level management and governance arrangements for flyingfish and large pelagic resources.

- Technical inputs into JICA pilot studies aimed at examining approaches for sustainable development of FAD fisheries for under-utilized and un-utilized resources (see Activity 410.2 / 412).

Networking activities are at least partially dependent on external donor support.

Achievements during the reporting period

- Fisheries officers trained through collaboration afforded by broad participation in the Sixth Annual Scientific Meeting, and through the UNU-FTP sponsored course arrangement.

- Completion of the first phase of the UNU-FTP sponsored stock assessment course.

- Coordinated inputs by representatives from IFREMER (Martinique), Instituto Oceanográfico –Universidad de Oriente (Venezuela), NMFS SEFSC, Canada, and Brazil for completion of dolphinfish assessment.

- Endorsement and commencement of TDA scientific activities intended to address aims of the CLME contracts proposed for implementation by the CRFM.

- Prepared MOU between CRFM and IMA

- Prepared and delivered selected course lectures as part of CRFM's partnership commitment for UNU-FTP sponsored stock assessment course.

- Ongoing collaboration between CRFM and JICA leading to improved approaches for sustainable development of FAD fisheries for under-utilized and un-utilized resources (see Activity 410.2 / 412).

- Commencement of CIDA internship to explore options for improving the information base for assessment and management of large and small coastal pelagic fish resources.

414.2: CRFM Large Pelagic Fisheries Working Group (CRFM LPWG)

Within CRFM, the CRFM LPWG provides regional coordination of research and assessment of large pelagic fish resources.

Objectives

To maintain and continuously improve the technical and information base for informing management planning and decision-making with regard to large pelagic fisheries in the CRFM region. This requires a coordinated effort to address shared issues pertaining to statistics, research, stock assessment methods and development of management advice. The CRFM Large Pelagic Fish Resource Working Group (CRFM LPWG) was established for this purpose, and its activities continued to be coordinated by the Secretariat.

In 2009, the CRFM was assigned a lead role in the implementation of the CLME Large Pelagic pilot project. The specific technical research and assessment tasks defined in this project is being coordinated through the activities of the CRFM LPWG: enhancement of data on regionally distributed large pelagic species, evaluation of the economic importance and impact of recreational fishing operations; establishing partnership arrangements to facilitate assessment of key regional species.

Activities and Inputs

In programme year 2010 / 11, there was an on-site meeting of the LPWG during the Sixth Annual Scientific Meeting (see Activity 420).

The CRFM LPWG completed a regional assessment of Eastern Caribbean dolphinfish fisheries using available catch and fishing effort data from several major island and non-island fisheries, and provided updated management advice and recommendations for this fishery. This assessment was undertaken, in fulfillment of contractual arrangements under the CLME project. The LPWG also reviewed and summarized the available information about the commercially important blackfin tuna fishery, paving the way for a more detailed assessment to be attempted in the near future. Options for evaluation of recreational fisheries were also discussed, and agreement was obtained on the way forward.

Outputs

The outputs of this project activity included:

- Improved data and information systems for large pelagic fish resources and the associated industries they support (achieved essentially through Working Group inter-sessional activities).
- Completed assessment of Eastern Caribbean dolphinfish fisheries.
- Completed review of available data and information on blackfin tuna.
- Formulated a recommendation to evaluate recreational fisheries.
- Completed report of LPWG meeting.

These outputs contribute directly to strengthened mechanisms for management planning and decision-making.

Achievements during the reporting period

- 2010 on-site LPWG meeting was convened
- Developed recommendations on data, research and management of Eastern Caribbean dolphinfish fisheries.
- Developed recommendations for completing an evaluation of the blackfin tuna fishery for management decision-making purposes.
- Obtained agreement on a suitable approach to complete a reasonable evaluation of recreational fisheries.
- Publication and circulation of information generated by the 2010 LPWG meeting.
- Provision of a regular, regional scientific and peer-review forum, desirable for various fishery certification applications.

414.6: CRFM Working Group on Data, Methods and Training (CRFM DMTWG)

Objectives

The CRFM Working Group on Data, Methods and Training (DMTWG) was established to build on the achievements of the CRFM ad hoc Working Group on Methods, as well as to examine options for improving available data and developing the scientific skills of national fisheries staff. This

Working Group's activities also provides opportunities for hands-on training of fisheries officers and for helping them to improve their understanding of the fisheries and data situations concerned.

Activities and inputs

In programme year 2010 / 11, an on-site meeting of the Working Group was convened during the Sixth Annual Scientific Meeting. During this meeting, 11 CRFM fisheries scientists were trained in the use of R- statistical software and fisheries data analyses techniques. Additionally, the DMTWG recommended that a CRFM toolbox and CRFM Casebook/Notebook be established and be made accessible via the CRFM website to provide: customized, online guidance to CRFM fisheries officers regarding data requirements and layout for the various assessment methods and the types of management outputs generated by these methods using case study illustrations; annotated assessment exercises, and; training materials. The first contributions for the CRFM toolbox and CRFM Casebook/Notebook are being prepared, and will soon appear on the CRFM website for use by CRFM fisheries officers. The DMTWG also recommended that an e-group or listserv be established to facilitate communication during the inter-sessional period, and that a scientific newsletter be published annually, to document the work and conclusions of the annuals scientific meetings in a layman-friendly format.

Outputs

- Completion of training of CRFM fisheries scientists in basic use of the free statistical software, R;
- Completion of agreed inter-sessional work plan to implement recommendations for establishing the CRFM Toolbox, the CRFM Casebook / Notebook, the DMTWG e-group, and the annual scientific newsletter.
- Completion of report of 2010 DMTWG meeting.

Achievements during the reporting period

- 2010 on-site meeting was convened to discuss work progress to address issues identified pertaining to data, methods and training and to determine the way forward.
- Improved usage of the statistical software R by fisheries officers from CRFM States.
- Expansion of CRFM website to include CRFM Toolbox and CRFM casebook/Notebook contributions
- Established DMTWG e-group.
- Preparation of two newsletters to reflect the activities of the first 5 scientific meetings, and the sixth meeting.
- Publication of 2010 DMTWG meeting report.

414.7: 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. Except for the Eastern Caribbean flyingfish that is believed to range from Trinidad and Tobago in the south to the northern Leeward Islands, 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 maintain and continuously improve the technical and information base for informing management planning and decision-making for small coastal pelagic fisheries in 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 Resource Working Group (CRFM SCPWG) was established for this purpose, and its activities continued to be coordinated by the Secretariat.

In 2009, the CRFM was assigned a lead role in the implementation of the CLME Flyingfish Case Study. The primary aims of the TDA component of the Case Study of Eastern Caribbean flyingfish are: assessment of the social and economic importance of the fishery; evaluation of relevant species trophic interactions; improvement in the quality and availability of data for assessments.

Activities and Inputs

In programme year 2010 / 11, an annual on-site meeting of the SCPWG took place during the Sixth Scientific Meeting noted under Activity 420. During the 2010 meeting, the CRFM SCPWG completed a review of Ms. Headley's inter-sessional analysis of Eastern Caribbean flyingfish fishery as part of her training in Iceland under the UNU-FTP sponsorship arrangements, and developed an inter-sessional work plan for completing a bio-economic evaluation of the fishery by 2011.

Outputs

- 2010 on site SCPWG meeting convened, and report prepared.
- Recommendations on data preparations for bio-economic assessment proposed to be conducted in 2011.

Achievements during the reporting period

- Publication of report of 2010 meeting of the CRFM SCPWG.
- Progress in socio-economic considerations and evaluations of the Eastern Caribbean flyingfish fishery.

- Formulated agreed plan to complete bio-economic assessment of resource in 2011.

- Ongoing preparations for completion of 2011 bio-economic assessment, as per agreed plan.

- Provision of a regular, regional scientific and peer-review forum, desirable for various fishery certification applications.

420: Annual Scientific Meetings

Objectives

The CRFM Scientific Meetings are held annually, to facilitate on-site meetings of the CRFM technical Working Groups and the development of management advice for the fisheries examined. These meetings also provide opportunities for hands-on training of fisheries officers and for helping them to improve their understanding of the fisheries for which they are responsible.

Activities and inputs:

During programme year 2010 / 11, the Sixth Annual Scientific Meeting took place June 7 – 16, 2010 in Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines. During this Meeting, CRFM Working Groups met to undertake fisheries analyses and assessments in response to management priorities identified by CRFM Member States and CLME contractual commitments. Inter-sessional activities were also reviewed and discussed. As in previous years, there continued to be a need for several external assessment experts to participate in the annual scientific meeting and to provide assistance to fisheries officers for completion of assessments. Specific training activities were also completed.

Outputs

- Preparation of the report of the Sixth Annual CRFM Scientific Meeting, that included national fishery reports submitted to the CRFM Scientific meeting in 2010, and management advice for completed fishery assessments.

- Inter-sessional activity research and assessment reports.

- Completed CLME technical products for informing implementation of CLME management and governance activities.

Achievements during the reporting period

- 2010 annual working group and plenary sessions were convened.

- Publication of 2010 scientific meeting report

- Management advice for completed fishery assessments.

- Recommendations on working groups' inter-sessional activities and plans.

- Fishery development and management updates were captured in the national reports submitted to the annual meeting.

- CRFM Fisheries Officers received training in the basic use of the statistical software, R, which is available online and gratis.

- CRFM Fisheries Officers received training in data analysis and stock assessment

- Provision of a regular, regional scientific and peer-review forum, desirable for various fishery certification applications.

420.1: CRFM Shrimp and Groundfish Fisheries Working Group (CRFM SGWG)

Objectives

To maintain and continuously improve the technical and information base for informing management planning and decision-making for shrimp and groundfish fisheries in 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.

Activities and Inputs

In programme year 2010 / 11, no on-site meeting of the Working Group was held during the Sixth Annual CRFM Scientific Meeting noted under Activity 420. The Working Group continued its inter-sessional activities, including data improvements and preparations for the next-on-site meeting proposed for programme year 2011/ 12.

Outputs

- As there was no on-site meeting in 2010, no formal reports were submitted to the scientific meeting.

Achievements during the reporting period

Inter-sessional activities continued, which involved efforts at the national level to improve data prepared for assessments, in accordance with recommendations of the 2009 scientific meeting. In particular:

- Ongoing progress in efforts to improve data and information on the Atlantic seabob fisheries of Suriname and Guyana.

- Ongoing progress in efforts to incorporate other types of data and information, e.g. social and economic data, into fisheries evaluation analyses.

- Ongoing progress to improve evaluation of the status of Atlantic seabob fisheries of Suriname and Guyana, and to formulate management advice and suitable Harvest Control Rules for the operations of these fisheries.

- Ongoing process in Parfish trials for the shrimp fishery of Trinidad (of Trinidad and Tobago).

430.1: Monitoring and Provision of Technical Assistance

Objectives

This activity is intended to provide technical support and advice to strengthen the research and resource assessment capabilities of the CRFM countries. The Secretariat is sometimes asked to provide technical assistance in response to specific inter-sessional and ad hoc requests from countries.

Activities and Inputs

Ad hoc assistance was provided to countries in need of addressing research and assessment priorities during the inter-sessional period between annual scientific meetings. The assistance was provided based on priorities identified at the national level and requests received by the Secretariat. In programme year 2010 / 11, activities included support to countries for implementing specific technical tasks associated with the JICA FAD study (see Activity 410.2/412), and the CRFM-led CLME Case Studies of large pelagic fish resources and the Eastern Caribbean flyingfish fishery. Additionally, member states requested specific assistance to complete an inter-sessional tasks recommended by the annual scientific meetings, and inter-sessional assignments for the UNU-FTP sponsored stock assessment course.

Outputs

The outputs of this activity are linked to the outputs of Activities 410.2/ 412, 414.2, 414.7, 420, 520.6 and 540.1.

Achievements during the reporting period

- Technical assistance was provided to Montserrat and St. Lucia concerning data preparations for the 2010 annual scientific meeting; such data were successfully prepared for the meeting.

- Assistance provided to Dominica and St. Lucia in respect of statistical monitoring and management of FAD fisheries (JICA-sponsored study), that resulted in data forms being modified for improved FAD fishery monitoring.

- Assistance provided to trainees regarding preparation of data for UNU-FTP sponsored stock assessment course and implementation of inter-sessional assignments. The first phase of the course was completed, and assignments are progressing.

- CRFM-led CLME TDA activities have commenced.

450.1: 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.

Objectives

To maintain and continuously improve the technical and information base for informing management planning and decision-making with regard to conch and lobster fisheries in 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 continued to be coordinated by the Secretariat.

Activities and Inputs

In programme year 2010 / 11, no on-site meeting of the Working Group was held during the Sixth Annual CRFM Scientific Meeting noted under Activity 420. The Working Group continued its inter-sessional activities, including data improvements and preparations for the next-on-site meeting proposed for programme year 2011/ 12. Additionally, a bio-economic assessment of the queen conch fishery of the Turks and Caicos islands was completed during the inter-sessional period, and the results and recommendations were presented for review and endorsement at the 2010 scientific meeting.

Outputs

- As there was no on-site meeting of the CLWG during the 2010 scientific meeting, no annual working group report was prepared.

- Report of inter-sessional activity to complete a bio-economic assessment of queen conch.

Achievements during the reporting period

- Inter-sessional activities continued, which involved efforts at the national level to improve data prepared for assessments, in accordance with recommendations put forward during the 2009 scientific meeting

- No on-site meeting was held in 2010.

- Updated management recommendations on the Turks and Caicos Islands queen conch fishery.

450.3 Feasibility study to determine potential for developing spotted lobster fisheries in St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Four species of lobsters have been observed in the waters of St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. They include the Caribbean spiny lobster (*Panulirus argus*), spotted lobster (*Panulirus guttatus*), slipper lobster (*Panulirus laevicanda*), and the red banded lobster (*Justitia longimanus*). Traditionally, the Caribbean spiny lobster has been the primary lobster species targeted on a commercial scale in the two island states. However, due to the high level of exploitation of the Caribbean spiny lobster, St. Lucian fishers have recently lobbied for a fishery for the spotted lobster (*P. guttatus)* and the current fisheries management plan also proposes the development of this fishery. The Fisheries Division of St. Vincent and the Grenadines has also expressed an interest in evaluating the potential for development of a spotted lobster fishery, since the Caribbean spiny lobster population is considered to be over-exploited in near shore areas.

Objectives

This activity aims to determine whether it is feasible to develop commercial-scale spotted lobster fisheries in St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, through assessment of the present population abundance and estimation of sustainable yield, and evaluation of suitable harvesting strategies. This information is to be used to propose practical management control options for achieving sustainable yield.

Activities and Inputs

The activity is on hold pending acquisition of sufficient resources.

Outputs

- Activity implementation is dependent on availability of core funding, as well as funding from the two participating States. Activity is on hold until sufficient funds and resources become available.

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: April 1, 2010 End: March 31, 2011

Activity Progress Report Summary

Total Budget: US$753,340 Spent: US$267,492

Balance: US$485,848

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 500: FISHERIES RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME:

This programme impacts within national boundaries as well as across borders and is directed towards the creation of a conducive environment (policy and otherwise) for the conservation and management of fisheries resources. Within national boundaries, the focus is aimed at promoting the implementation of the co-management strategy for fisheries management, while across national borders it is directed towards increased collaboration among countries and with relevant international agencies in the management of shared resources. It is intended to promote and encourage vibrant fishers' organizations at the local, national and regional levels, while improving on their participation in the fisheries governance and management processes. In addition, it is intended to enrich the stakeholders' knowledge capital in the region (MTP2, 2008).

The major outputs will be:

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

2. Improved fisheries policies and management plans at the regional and national levels, including FMPs for Anguilla, Dominica and Grenada.

3. Reinforced MCS capabilities.

4. CNFO formalised / launched.

5. Production and distribution of CNFO promotional brochure.

6. Fisherfolk leaders trained in operating formal networks.

7. Publication and dissemination of a policy brief on critical issues concerning national, regional and international trade in fish and fish products.

8. Fisherfolk leaders trained to use web 2 tools.

9. Publication and dissemination of *Fisher Folk Net* Newsletter.

10. A Diagnostic Study Report, including recommendations and models for planning and implementing alternative livelihood programmes, and the identification of suitable socio-economic and demographic indicators for ongoing monitoring and evaluation.

11. Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) for the shared stocks of the Eastern Caribbean Flyingfish Fishery and the Large Pelagic Fisheries.

12. Needs assessment survey conducted and the training requirements for personnel to support sustainable fisheries development identified.

13. Ten persons trained in the areas of ocean governance as it relates to policy, law and management under the CRFM/IOI MOU.

14. Six persons trained in fisheries under the CRFM / UNU - FTP MOU.

15. CFOs and other senior fisheries officers trained at the UNU-FTP regional workshop on leadership development for heads of national fisheries administrations and related agencies.

16. IUU Fishing Declaration.

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

Background

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 (http://www.cites.org/eng/disc/how.shtml).

Recognizing 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.

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 (http://www.fao.org/fishery/rfb/wecafc).

Recognizing 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 has also been partnering with WECAFC in the convening of meetings on fisheries management and development.

Objectives

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.

To collaborate with and participate in WECAFC activities planned for 2010 / 11 and 2011 / 12.

Activities and Inputs

During 2010 / 11, the CRFM Secretariat will participate in the CITES Conference of Parties Meeting to be held in Doha, Qatar, in 2010. It will prepare a brief on fisheries related issues for Member States prior to the 2010 COP Meeting. Also, the CRFM will participate in relevant WECAFC Meetings:

Highlights of achievement during the period April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011

During the reporting period, the Secretariat monitored CITES activities by way of the CITES Notifications and the CITES website and brought matters to the attention of the Member States or respective Member States as need be. Also, following on the conclusion of the Conference of Parties Meeting in 2010, the CRFM updated the brief which it had prepared and circulated to Member States on the proposals relating to sharks, Atlantic bluefin tuna and corals, with the decisions taken regarding the species identified and shared it with Member States.

The CRFM Secretariat participated in the *Regional Central America and Caribbean Consultation Meeting: FAO Voluntary Guidelines on responsible governance of tenure of land and other natural resources,* from September 6 - 8, 2010, in Panama City, Panama. The meeting was organized and convened by the CIDES, FAO, UNDP, UN-Habitat and CSN (Conseil Supérieur du Notariat). It focused on issues of governance of tenure such as land tenure and administration; natural resources including forest tenure, fisheries and water; safeguard of vulnerable groups and gender issues; land use planning and urban development; land economics, markets and valuation and large scale agriculture investments. Additionally, important regional initiatives and approaches in the field of governance, policy and institutional development were discussed.

The Secretariat participated in the *FAO/OSPESCA/INCOPESCA Workshop on securing sustainable small-scale fisheries: bringing together responsible fisheries and social development*, from October 20 - 22, 2010, in San Jose, Costa Rica. The meeting was organized and convened by the FAO, OSPESCA and INCOPESCA. It was aimed at providing guidance on a possible international instrument to plan, implement and report on securing sustainability in SSF and identify high priority actions and potential gaps in the implementation of good governance practices in SSF and related assistance needs. The outcomes of this Workshop and similar ones held for Asia (in Thailand) and Africa (in Maputo) were to be presented to the 29th Session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries in January / February 2011, in Rome.

501.2: CRFM / JICA Formulation of a Master Plan on Sustainable Use of Fisheries Resources for Coastal Community Development in the Caribbean (Donor funded)

Background

The Scope of Work for the Study was signed by the CARICOM Secretariat, JICA and CRFM Secretariat in December 2008. It aims to analyze and propose options for a comprehensive resource management approach in the Caribbean region that may include limited entry to coastal fisheries, diversification of the industry, and promotion of the optimal use of fisheries resources with cooperation between government and communities. It addresses the following components:

1. Pelagic resource development and management.

2. Aquaculture development policy formulation.

3. Regional fisheries database development.

4. Support for community-based management (including sedentary resource management).

5. Education and Training in the component fields in the CARICOM States.

A Pre-inception mission was undertaken during May 2009 by the Japanese consulting firm, IC Net Limited, and a Draft Inception Report, which sets out the background and purpose of the study and the methods of implementation, including the conducting of the baseline survey, was prepared in June 2009 and given to Member States for review. The baseline survey has been conducted by the regional consulting firm Trevor Hamilton and Associates, and the CRFM / IC Net Limited teams

have undertaken field missions to Member States to conduct, with the assistance of the fisheries departments, analyses of the institutional arrangements for fisheries management and development as well as obtain data and information relevant to the various components of the Study. The draft country and regional reports from the baseline studies have been reviewed and are being finalised. In December 2009, the first Project Steering Committee Meeting was held in St. Vincent and the Grenadines to review the preliminary Draft Master Plan; identify and short list the likely pilot studies, and review the overall progress of the project.

Objectives

The specific objectives are:

(i) understanding the situation in fishing and rural village development, needs of community members, and development possibilities and constraints;

(ii) formulating a master plan for the sustainable use of fisheries resources in the region that includes a coastal resource management scheme with cooperation between government and communities, and recommends practical resource management activities;

(iii) identifying effective schemes for fishery resources management and sustainable development, and verifying the feasibility of these schemes with the implementation of pilot studies; and

(iv) enhancing policy making and problem analysis capabilities of CRFM Secretariat and Fisheries Department staff as well as fishers' organization personnel through various studies, including the implementation of pilot studies.

Approach

During 2010 / 12, the Secretariat will continue to participate in the implementation of the Master Plan Study by serving as counterpart to the IC Net Limited Team in the areas of community-based resource management, aquaculture and socio-economics/marketing, which would involve participation in the following:

(i) field survey teams implementing and monitoring the short-listed pilot projects (mainly the aquaculture and pelagic fisheries management studies) being undertaken in the Member States (Belize, Dominica, Jamaica, St. Lucia);

(ii) review of the draft pilot study reports;

(iii) project steering committee activities; and

(iv) review of the Draft Final Master Plan.

Highlights of achievement during the period April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011

Following on the Steering Committee Meeting in December 2009, and subsequent communication

among the CRFM and JICA/IC Net Ltd, 3 categories of pilot projects were selected for implementation in 6 countries between April 2010 and October 2011. The Pilot Projects and countries where they are being implemented are: (i) Pelagic Fishery Resource Development and Management using Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) in St. Lucia and Dominica; (ii) Development of Fisheries Statistical System Models in Guyana and St. Vincent and the Grenadines; and (iii) Small-scale aquaculture training in Jamaica and low cost small-scale aquaculture development in Belize.

The Secretariat continued to participate in the implementation of the Work Plans for the aquaculture pilot projects of Jamaica and Belize. In October 2010, the PM, FMD, participated in the DOF, Jamaica / CRFM Secretariat/IC Net meeting to discuss the preparations for the *CARICOM / CRFM / JICA First Regional Aquaculture Development Planning Workshop,* from March 14 - 21, 2011, in Jamaica.

The Secretariat, in collaboration with IC Net Limited, facilitated the *First Regional Aquaculture Development Planning Workshop,* in March 2011, which was aimed at providing training in project cycle management, including problem analysis and planning, and assisting in the preparation of draft action plans for sustainable aquaculture development in Belize, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago. In terms of the way forward, the participants from the six Member States agreed to undertake intersessional such as the finalization of the country specific aquaculture development actions plans; drafting of a concept paper on the Formation of a Regional Network of Aquaculture Organisations; and preparation of a working group report on the definitions for subsistence, small scale and large/commercial scale aquaculture farms. They also agreed to set up an e-group to monitor the progress towards the meeting of the deadlines for intersessional activities.

It also continued to participate in the implementation of the pelagic fishery management and development pilots projects in Dominica and St. Lucia, by taking part in the delivery of the CRFM/JICA FAD Management Workshop 1 and CRFM / JICA FAD Management (underutilized resources: Diamond Back Squid) Workshop, in February 2011, in St. Lucia.

512.2 Strengthening National Fisheries Management:

Development and Implementation of Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs):

Background:

The formulation and implementation of appropriate fisheries sector policies and developmental and management strategies and plans are complex and multifaceted, with the critical inputs revolving primarily around political commitment, institutional capacity and effective stakeholder participation.

During the programme years 2003 / 04 to 2009 / 10 the CRFM Secretariat has worked with a number of countries, including Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, Turks and Caicos Islands, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Suriname in the process of updating and facilitating the implementation of their Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs). Based on a timeframe that it takes to update a FMP, hold national consultations with stakeholders and obtain approval from the relevant political authority, the CRFM Secretariat will continue to provide assistance to Member States in the updating and facilitation of the implementation of their Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs).

The ACP Fish II Project was developed with the intention of accessing resources to strengthen fisheries management planning in Caribbean ACP States. Component 1 of the Approved Workplan, 8 February 2010 – 30 June 2011 is focused on providing funding and technical assistance to improve fisheries policies and management plans at national and regional levels. The CRFM Secretariat will work with Member States to access the resources available to address the national and regional priority needs identified under this component.

Objective

To update and facilitate implementation of the fisheries management plans for the CRFM Member States.

Activities and Inputs

The CRFM Secretariat, in collaboration with the Departments of Fisheries (DoF), will continue to update the draft Fisheries Management Plans, and organize and convene national consultations with the stakeholders to obtain their inputs into the draft FMPs for those Member States for which these activities are yet to be completed (e.g. Anguilla, Dominica, Grenada).

Highlights of achievement during the period April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011

The Secretariat continued to liaise with the fisheries authorities in Anguilla, Dominica and Grenada regarding their feedback on the updated Draft FMPs. It also monitored the situation regarding the development of national projects in the areas of fisheries policy development and implementation under the ACP Fish II Project.

512.3: Programme for Strengthening Fisheries Management in ACP Countries (ACP Fish II) (Donor Funded)

The ACP Fish II is the second phase of an EU programme, which has as its overall objective *"to contribute to the sustainable and equitable management of fisheries in ACP countries"*. The ACP Fish II aims to foster improved institutional capacity for fisheries and aquatic resources management. It specifically addresses knowledge requirements for sustainable management in ACP countries at all levels of decision-making.

Implementation of the project, which will be conducted under decentralized management through a Coordination Unit (CU) based in Brussels and six Regional Facilitation Units (RFUs) located in Belize, Gabon, Senegal, Uganda, Mozambique and Fiji, commenced in the latter half of 2009. In relation to the Caribbean the first activity, a Regional Needs Assessment Workshop was held in Belize on October 27 – 28, 2009. The primary objective of the Needs Assessment Workshop was to propose broad activities for each component that could be supported under the ACP Fish II Programme. These broad activities will be used to develop an overall work plan for the programme period and work plan for the first year and a half, and budgets to be presented to the Steering Committee for approval. A proposed second round of workshops in early 2010 will refine these documents.

Objective

The overall objective of the Programme is to contribute to the sustainable and equitable management of fisheries in ACP countries, while the specific objective is to strengthen fisheries sectoral policy development and implementation in ACP Countries.

Approach

During 2010 / 11, the Secretariat will continue to participate in the implementation of the ACP Fish II Project by undertaking the following:

(i) reviewing the Draft Overall Work Plan for the Caribbean component of the Project;

(ii) reviewing the Draft Annual Work Plan 2010 / 11 for the Caribbean component of the Project;

(iii) serving as counterpart to the consultants / resource persons contracted to deliver projects / activities in the project components relating to:

(a) improved fisheries policies and management plans at regional and national levels: devise and update fisheries policies and management plans, revise and update regulatory frameworks for policies, institutional capacity building of fisheries administration;

(b) reinforced control and enforcement capabilities: identification of potential regional cooperation in MCS and enforcement, support the implementation of MCS and VMS at national and regional levels**;**

(c) reinforced national and regional research strategies and initiatives: support the development of research strategies that reflects policy and management at the national and regional levels, reinforce conservation and resource management, capacity building for institutions/agencies involved in research and quality standards;

(d) developed business supportive regulatory frameworks and private sector investment: assess existing policies and regulatory framework governing business and private sector investment, develop export market capabilities and promote private investment, strengthen regional level trade in fish and fish products; and

(e) increased knowledge-sharing on fisheries management and trade, at regional level: assess needs and capacities for communication strategy and products, develop fisheries management Knowledge exchange system (KES) strategy to support intra ACP networking and communication.

Highlights of achievement during the period April 1 to March 31, 2011

Based on discussions with the Regional Manager, Caribbean RFU, the Secretariat drafted and submitted the regional project proposals for inclusion in the Draft ACP Fish II Regional Plan of Action. These included: MCS Projects: Phase I and II; Development of the Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations; Study to review the impact of rising cost factors, such as capital, labour, maintenance and energy costs on fisheries operations in the CRFM Member States and propose appropriate strategies for dealing with the resulting issues; Rehabilitation and Management of the Queen Conch (*Strombus gigas)* Resources in the CARICOM/CARIFORUM Member States; Human resource development needs assessment survey for the fisheries and related sectors in the CRFM / CARIFORUM region; and the CRFM KES Component.

The Secretariat participated in the *ACP Fish II Workshop for Presentation and Discussion of the Action Plan for the Caribbean ACP Fish II Programme,* from 28 - 29 October 2010, in St. Kitts and Nevis. The Workshop objectives were to present the proposed Action Plan; validate the Programme Estimate 1 (PE1) Projects and discuss and approve Programme Estimate 2 (PE2) Projects. The output was the finalization of the Action Plan of Projects to be supported by the ACP Fish II Programme.

520.1: Development of the Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations (Donor Funded)

Background:

The CTA and CRFM have been working together in support of the dynamic process initiated by fisher folk groups in the Caribbean to create a regional network of fisherfolk organisations. The first phase of the process which lasted from 2006 to 2008 included the following elements: identifying the potential for a regional network among fisher folk groups; establishing and formalizing national fisher folk organisations (NFO), as the backbone of the regional network; training fisher folk leaders in areas related to network management and use of communication tools.

Dominica, Guyana, St. Lucia and Suriname have officially formed NFOs and Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis and St. Vincent and the Grenadines have established steering committees to legalize NFOs in the near future. NFOs from these two groups of countries along with those from Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago form the core group of the CNFO to be launched in 2010. They are represented in the CNFO Coordinating Unit (CNFO - CU) which was established at the Grenada Workshop to develop and execute a work plan for the formation and legalization of the regional network and its development. It is expected that the remaining countries in the CARICOM / CARIFORUM region will eventually join the Network in the years to come as a result of CNFO - CU's continued mobilization efforts and understanding of the benefits of being members.

Based on their exposure at the recent workshops on policy influence and planning; involvement in the April 2009 CRFM Special Forum on the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime in Dominica and the July 2009 CRFM Forum in St. Lucia, fisherfolk leaders have recognised the need to keep themselves informed as well as share information about current fisheries policy and related matters so as to be in a better position to make informed contributions to fisheries policy development at the national and regional levels.

With the 2006 - 2008 project activities, including the activities in the CU short-term action plan having been implemented and the regional network now ready to be formalised, a follow-up project proposal ***Launching and Capacity Development of the Caribbean Network of fisherfolk Organisations*** has been developed and is being finalized with the CTA for implementation in 2010 - 2011. The main thrusts of the project are (i) continuing to reinforce the institutional and technical capacity of Caribbean fisherfolk to develop positions on policy issues; and (ii) communicating and advocating for fisherfolk's positions on critical issues. These thrusts will be operationalized through workshops, networking, enhanced use of ICT applications, and effective cooperation with the media. At the end of this phase, the CRFM Secretariat will collaborate with the CNFO in preparing a follow-up proposal for submission to the CTA.

Objective

The overall objective is to contribute to the development of a sustainable and profitable fishing industry and the improvement of the quality of fishers' lives, with the purpose being to enhance the capacities of fisherfolk organisations to make effective member and policy representation.

Activities and Inputs

During 2010 / 11, the following activities will be undertaken:

(i) convening of a regional CNFO launching workshop;

(ii) preparation and dissemination of a CNFO promotional brochure;

(iii) convening a training workshop on leadership in formal networks;

(iv) preparation and dissemination of a policy brief on critical issues concerning regional and international trade in fish and fish products;

(v) a training workshop on the use of web 2 tools;

(vi) upgrade and maintenance of the CNFO Website;

(vii) preparation and dissemination of *Fisher Folk Net* Newsletter; and

(viii) preparation and dissemination of media materials.

The CRFM will also continue to provide support for the participation of fisherfolk leaders, identified by the CNFO, in the 2010 and 2011 GCFI Meetings.

Highlights of achievement during the period April 1 to March 31, 2011

The implementation of Phase II of the Project was delayed while the CRFM and the CTA concluded matters related to the end of Phase I of the Project, and the finalization and approval of a new strategic direction for CTA with the recruitment of a new Director.

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 CARICOM / 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. It is being funded by the Government of Spain under the CARICOM/Spain Scientific and Technical Cooperation Agreement.

Implementation commenced in October with a CARISEC / CRFM / Kingdom of Spain Workshop on October 8 – 9, 2009 in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The Workshop reviewed: (i) the Terms of Reference for the Project; (ii) the Terms of Reference for a Regional Project Coordinator (iii) documentation relating to the methodology to be employed in the survey, including the criteria for the identification of the 10 select CRFM member states in which to project is to be conducted; (iv) the timelines for the project activities and the attendant logistics and adjusted these as necessary; and (v) finalised the draft agenda / program, including duration, dates, venue and budget for training work shop for the surveyors.

Based on agreed upon criteria, ten Member States (Barbados, The Bahamas, Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago) were selected for the conducting of the Study, and a workshop was held in Grenada in February 2010 to train the surveyors from these countries. In collaboration with the Consultants (Tragsatec, Spain), the selected Member States and the Secretariat have reviewed and finalised the study questionnaires and field manuals. The field work is slated to commence in March 2010.

Objective

The objectives of this project are to organize a diagnostic study to determine the levels of poverty in fishing communities in selected CARICOM / CRFM Member States and develop models for planning and implementing alternative livelihood programmes suited to their socio-economic and natural environments; and 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.

Activities and Inputs

During the implementation of this Study, the Secretariat will undertake the following activities in order to coordinate and facilitate project delivery:

- provide all available information for the statistical design of the study and the identification of suitable indicators;

- provide all available information for the preparation of the field work;

- review and approve the questionnaire and the field work methodology;

- select surveyors, in collaboration with the fisheries administrations of the selected countries;

- organize and convene a training course for at least 20 participants: specifically managing the payments associated with the preparation of material (training kit), course room and facilities, lunch and coffee breaks, translation (if necessary), transport (international and ground) and accommodation for all participants except for Tragsatec´s experts;

- provide the surveyors with hard copies of the questionnaire for data collection;

- give support and coverage to surveyors during the field work to have a quick response in case of contingencies to enable the correct development of data collection;

- facilitate, through the national fisheries administrations of the selected countries, the transmission of the collected data to Tragsatec by allowing the installation of the program and the recording of results;

- organize and convene a regional workshop for approximately 30 participants, including chief fisheries officers / directors of fisheries; and

- assist Tragsatec in making the necessary logistical arrangements for its staff members while working in the region.

Highlights of achievement during the period April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011

Implementation on this project commenced in October 2009 with a two day CARISEC / CRFM / Kingdom of Spain Workshop in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The Workshop reviewed: (i) the Terms of Reference for the Project; (ii) the Terms of Reference for a Regional Project Coordinator (iii) documentation on the methodology to be employed in the survey, including the criteria for the identification of the 10 select CRFM member states in which the project is to be conducted; (iv) the timelines for the project activities and the attendant logistics and adjusted these as necessary; and (v) finalised the draft agenda / program, including duration, dates, venue and budget for the training workshop for the surveyors.

The draft criteria and relevant questionnaires to solicit information needed to aid the selection of the ten countries in which the Study will be conducted were circulated to Member States. Based on the information received, the following countries were selected – Barbados, The Bahamas, Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago. The selected countries were notified accordingly.

The training workshop for surveyors was convened in Grenada from the February 25 – 26, 2010. There, the surveyors were informed about the Study; the surveys that would be undertaken and the subsequent analysis to be carried out on the data obtained; and and provided with training on the data collection techniques to be utilised.

Following the training workshop, and in keeping with the agreed *Way Forward*, comments on the revised questionnaires and manual to be used in the survey, as well as updated country information, which assisted in the determination of the sample frame for each country, were provided and the questionnaires and manual and the software for data entry finalized. The field survey commenced in earnest in July 2010.

During the month of November 2010, the Regional Project Coordinator undertook monitoring missions to six of the ten selected member states namely, St. Kitts and Nevis, Montserrat, Jamaica, Barbados, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago. The main purpose of these visits was to observe and participate in the field and data management activities, including data transmission to the Consultant, Tragsatec. During the visits, the RPC also made a presentation about the Study to the staff of the Fisheries Divisions / Departments as well as other invited stakeholders and collected copies of any promotional materials that would have been used to inform stakeholders and the general public about the Study. Subsequently, monitoring activities were undertaken in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada, Belize and The Bahamas during December 10 – 22, 2010.

With the monitoring visits to all member states having been completed, a revised scheduled for the completion of the field survey and data input and transmission to the consultants, Tragsatec, has been done, with the survey now expected to be completed during March 2011. A regional workshop to review the findings of the survey is being planned for late in the second quarter of 2011.

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, August 18 – 21, 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. Based on comments from the FAO (Rome) on the draft project document, it was finalized and submitted to the FAO through CARISEC in 2008 / 09.

The ACP Fish II Project was developed with the intention of accessing resources to strengthen fisheries management planning in Caribbean ACP States. Component 1 of the Approved Workplan 8 February 2010 – 30 June 2011 is focused on providing funding and technical assistance to improve fisheries policies and management plans at national and regional levels. The CRFM Secretariat will work with Member States to access the resources available to address the national and regional priority needs identified.

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 achievements to date

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.

Recently, the Project Proposal was revised and submitted for consideration under the ACP Fish II Project.

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. This Project was submitted to the IDB though CARISEC for funding. It was also included among the projects for consideration under the CARICOM / US Bilateral Programme.

The ACP Fish II Project was developed with the intention of accessing resources to reinforce control and enforcement capabilities in Caribbean ACP States. Component 2 of the Approved Workplan February 8, 2010 – June 30, 2011 is focused on reinforced control and enforcement capabilities. The CRFM Secretariat will work with Member States to access the resources available to address the national and regional priority needs identified under this Component.

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 period April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011

The Project Proposal was revised and submitted for consideration under the ACP Fish II Project. It has been accepted and is due for implementation in two phases under PEs 1 and 2 of the ACP Fish II Project.

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

Background

The CLME Project was developed by UNESCO / IOCARIBE and approved for funding by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF). 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 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:

(i) 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.

(ii) 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.

(iii) 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.

(iv) Strengthening of linkages between the private sector, advisory institutions and decision making bodies in order to improve the policy cycle at all levels.

(v) Development of a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for SAP implementation and determine execution procedures and responsibilities; and

(vi) Implementation of 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).

As part of the start-up to the CLME Project, the CRFM Secretariat reviewed and commented on the Terms of Reference for the TDA gap filling activities and the SAPs for the Eastern Caribbean flyingfish and the large pelagic fisheries, respectively. The CRFM will serve as the lead agency for the implementation of these two projects. The Secretariat also participated in the CLME Steering Committee Meeting in Colombia, in September 2009 and the CLME Project TDA / SAP Training Course in Colombia in January 2010.

Objective

The specific objectives are:

(i) 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;

(ii) To improve the shared knowledge base for sustainable use and management of transboundary living marine resources;

(iii) To implement legal, policy and institutional reforms to achieve sustainable transboundary living marine resource management; and

(iv) To develop an institutional and procedural approach to LME level monitoring, evaluation and reporting (UNDP Draft CLME Project, 2007).

Activities and Inputs

(i) During 2010 / 11 and 2011 / 12, the CRFM Secretariat will undertake the following:Participate in the Steering Committee and Project Advisory Committee Meetings

(ii) Participate in the activities of the CLME Technical Task Team charged with the preparation of the Causal Chain Analysis (CCA), the three Sub-regional TDAs and the final Regional TDA.

(iii) Participate in the activities of the CLME Stakeholder Advisory Group charged with the preparation and supervision of the Communication and Participation Strategies in support of the Pilot Projects, Case Studies, preparation of the Sub-regional and final Regional TDA, and preparation of the Strategic Action Programme.

(iv) Implement the TDA and SAP filling component of the Case Study: *TDA Gap Filling and SAP Activities for the Shared Stocks of the Eastern Caribbean Flyingfish Fishery*.

(v) Implement the TDA and SAP filling component of the Case Study: *TDA Gap Filling and SAP Activities for Large Pelagic Fisheries.*

Highlights of achievement during the period April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011

- As part of the start-up to the CLME Project, the CRFM Secretariat reviewed and commented on the Terms of Reference for the TDA gap filling activities and the SAPs for the Eastern Caribbean flyingfish and the large pelagic fisheries, respectively. The CRFM is serving as the lead agency for the implementation of these two projects.

- In July 2010, at the request of the CLME PCU, the CRFM Secretariat prepared detailed research proposals for the two case studies that were assigned to the CRFM for implementation. The Secretariat prepared and submitted the Research Proposals for the TDA gap filling activities and the SAPs for the Eastern Caribbean flyingfish and the large pelagic fisheries, respectively. The proposals included the objectives, activities, expected outputs, budgets and personnel, timelines, sustainability criteria, plans for dissemination of the results and risks and assumptions.

- The Executive Director and Programme Manager, Fisheries Management and Development participated in the second set of CLME Project meetings in September / October 2010, in Panama. These included the CLME Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Training Workshop in Panama, September 28 - 29, 2010, and the Meetings of the Technical Task Team (TTT) and Stakeholder Advisory Group (STAG) in Panama, September 30 – October 1, 2010. The TTT and STAG reviewed the development of the Pilot Projects, Case Studies Work Plans and the Communication and Participation Strategies for the CLME Project and prepared recommendations for consideration by the Project Steering Committee Meeting. The Executive Director and Programme Manager, Fisheries Management and Development participated in the CLME Steering Committee Meeting in November 2010 in Panama which was aimed at approving the Work Plan and Budget for the Project.

- The CRFM Secretariat organized and convened the First Meeting of the CRFM / CLME Eastern Caribbean Flyingfish Fishery Consultancy Steering Committee, on February 10, 2011, and the First Meeting of the CRFM / CLME Large Pelagic Fishery Consultancy Steering Committee, on February 11, 2011, in Barbados. The Agenda items for the two Meetings included a review of the CSC Terms of Reference; overview of the CLME Project; presentation of case study background, objectives, proposed activities, budget and implementation schedule; review and discussion of any issues pertaining to the case study objectives, activities, and implementation schedule and conclusions and recommendations of the Committee.

520.8: Reduction of Fishers' Vulnerability to Disasters

Fishers are vulnerable to natural disasters and their personal safety is continually at risk while at sea. The vulnerability to natural disasters entail mostly hurricane related damages to fishing boats and equipment, loss of catches and threat to the life of the fishers who have not received timely warnings. The threats to personal safety are driven mainly by poor standards of boat construction, limited awareness of the required safety practices, and inadequate use of safety equipment. Each year Member States fisher folk suffer major financial losses arising from severe hurricanes and other

negative weather conditions which damage or destroy their boats and equipment and fisheries onshore facilities such as gear sheds, jetties, etc. Similarly several have lost their lives arising from adverse weather conditions or unsafe fishing practices and poorly constructed boats. These situations imply that the fishing industry will have to develop the capacity to plan for, and manage disasters, and fishers will have to become more aware of the need for adherence to safety practices and procedures.

The Secretariat participated in the First Meeting of the Agriculture Sector Sub-Committee of the Comprehensive Disaster Management Coordination and Harmonization Council, on June 26, 2009, in Barbados. This was done with a view to arriving at a recommendation for the amalgamation of the CDM CHC Agriculture Sector Sub-committee and the COTED Technical Advisory Management Committee (TMAC) for the Deficient and Uncoordinated Risk Management Measures including Praedial Larceny under the Jagdeo Initiative. The Secretariat also participated in the Second Meeting of the Agriculture Sector Sub-committee of the Comprehensive Disaster Management Coordination and Harmonization Council, on September 10, 2009, in Antigua and Barbuda. At this Meeting, the Secretariat made a presentation on the *Development and Promotion of a Risk Reduction Programme for Fishers* taken from the CRFM MTP2. The Committee prepared a Draft Report for COTED which provides the outputs from both the First and Second Meetings of the CDM CHC Agriculture Sector Sub-Committee of 26 June and 10 September 2009, respectively. Subsequently, the Secretariat participated in the Third Meeting of the Agriculture Sector Sub-committee of the Comprehensive Disaster Management Coordination and Harmonization Council, on March 10, 2010, in St. Lucia, which reviewed the Terms of Reference for a Consultancy on the State of Praedial Larceny in the Region and a proposal for a Regional Symposium on Agricultural insurance.

Objective

To build regional capacity to plan for and implement measures to minimize the vulnerability of fisher folk to natural disasters and other safety related risks at sea.

Activities and Inputs

The CRFM Secretariat will continue to participate in the COTED Agriculture Sector Sub-committee of the Comprehensive Disaster Management Coordination and Harmonization Council in its efforts to mobiles resources to develop comprehensive disaster management plans for the fisheries sector in the region, including the programme for the *Development and Promotion of a Risk Reduction for Fishers.*

Highlights of achievement during the period April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011

The Secretariat participated in the Third Meeting of the CDEMA Climate Change Disaster Management Working Group (CCDM-WG), from April 13 - 14, 2010, in Barbados, and in the Caribbean Regional Symposium on Agricultural Insurance, from June 15 - 19, 2010, in Antigua and Barbuda. The CNFO-CU participated in the Symposium.

The CRFM Secretariat assisted in the implementation of the Consultancy on the analysis of praedial larceny in the region. The Secretariat participated in the Regional Consultation on Praedial Larceny, September 21 – 22, 2010, and made a presentation: *Managing praedial larceny in fisheries and*

aquaculture: new technologies and challenges. It also participated in the Fourth Meeting of the Agriculture Disaster Risk Management Committee ASSC / TMAC, September 23, 2010, St. Lucia.

The Secretariat participated in the FAO / OSPESCA / INCOPESCA meeting on reducing vulnerability of fishing and fish farm communities to natural disasters and climate change, on October 19, 2010, in San Jose, Costa Rica. The meeting was organized and convened by the FAO, OSPESCA and INCOPESCA. Among the participants at the meeting were representatives from FAO, UNISDR, OSPESCA, ECLAC, CDEMA, OLDEPESCA and ICSF. The consultation focused on the mainstreaming of Disaster Risk Management (DRM) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) into small-scale fisheries and aquaculture.

540. 1 Human Resource Development – Long Term Training and Scholarships:

CRFM / IOI

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, during the period April – June 2010, the CRFM Secretariat provided IOI scholarships for three (3) persons drawn from fisheries departments in the Member States, to attend the International Ocean Institute Training Programme on Ocean Governance: Policy, Law and Management in Canada, from May19 - July 16, 2010, Nova Scotia, Canada. Scholars are below-listed:

Country	Name and Title	Institution
Guyana	Ms Ingrid Peters, Fisheries Officer	IOI / Dalhousie University
Montserrat	Mr. Alwyn Ponteen, Fisheries Officer	IOI / Dalhousie University
St. Lucia	Ms. Allena Joseph, Fisheries Biologist	IOI / Dalhousie University

CRFM / UNU-FTP

The CRFM Secretariat has established a long-term relationship with the University of the United Nations – Fisheries Training Programme (UNU – FTP), Iceland, for the purpose of building national and regional capacity for fisheries development and management in the region. The CRFM and the UNU – FTP signed a Memorandum of Understanding in 2008 to strengthen cooperation and collaboration in capacity building in the CRFM Member States. The UNU-FTP offers 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 in a formal cooperation with the Icelandic Fisheries Laboratories and the University of Akureyri. The training covers six (6) specialist areas including: (1) Fisheries Policy and Planning; (2) Marine and Inland Waters Resources and Assessment; (3) Quality Management and Fish Handling Processes; (4) Management of Fisheries Companies and Marketing; (5) Fishing Technology; and (6) Aquatic Environmental Assessment and Monitoring.

The UNU has agreed to offer up to three (3) such training fellowship to Fisheries Officers from the CRFM Member States each year. In this regard, fellowships were awarded by the UNU - FTP, to Anginette Murray, Marine Researcher / Analyst (ag.), Jamaica; Ms. Maren Headley, Research Graduate, CRFM Secretariat; and Mr. Mauro Gongora, Fisheries Officer, Belize, to undergo a six (6) months period of training in Iceland. Studies commenced in September 2009 and all three candidates successfully completed their courses of study in March 2010.

Highlights of achievement during the period April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011

IOI

Three scholars from CRFM Member States were selected to undergo training at IOI, Canada, for the year 2010. The scholars were selected from Guyana (Ms. Ingrid Peters, Fisheries Officer), Montserrat (Mr. Alwyn Ponteen, Fisheries Officer) and St. Lucia (Ms. Allena Joseph, Fisheries Biologist). They successfully completed the IOI Training Programme on Ocean Governance: Policy, Law and Management, from May 19 - July 16, 2010, in Halifax, Canada.

UNU-FTP

In December 2009 Member States were asked to submit nominations for three scholarships to undertake six (6) months of training in Iceland commencing September 2010. 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.

Nominations were received from Member States and scholarships were offered to Roderick Sobers, Senior Fisheries Assistant, Fisheries Division, Barbados, Ricardo Morris, Fisheries Officer, Jamaica and Mr. Jerome DeShong, Manager, National Fisheries Marketing Limited, St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Unfortunately, Mr. DeShong subsequently declined the scholarship. However, by then it was too late to find a substitute candidate from the region to take up the training opportunity in Iceland.

Development of Short Courses in the Caribbean

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 advanced 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 and submitted to the Government of Iceland in January 2009. The Project proposals were approved in December 2009.

The CRFM Secretariat in collaboration with the United Nations University –Fisheries Training Programme (UNU-FTP), and the University of Akuyreri, Iceland (UA); the University of Belize (UB), and the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus (UWI), developed the training material and conducted the Advanced Leadership Training Workshop for Heads of National Fisheries Administrations of CRFM Member States in April 2010, through a grant awarded to the CRFM by the Island Growth Initiative Fund of Iceland.

The overall development goal of this capacity building workshop was to enhance the contribution of fisheries to the social and economic development of the countries and achieve better quality life and standard of living for fisherfolk and coastal communities through sustainable development, management and conservation of the fisheries resource systems. The specific objective of the workshop was to ensure that Heads of the national fisheries authorities of the CRFM Member States are equipped with the knowledge and skills required to provide high quality leadership in their organizations. Nineteen senior officers from the CRFM Member States, and the CRFM and OECS Secretariats received training during the workshop which was held in Belize City, Belize, April 25 - 30, 2010.

From January 2010, the UNU-FTP/CRFM/UWI stock assessment course training material was further developed through collaboration among the lecturers, and in August 2010, the first phase of the course was held at UWI's Cavehill Campus in Barbados. During this first phase, a total of 19 fisheries officers from CRFM States were trained in basic methods of fisheries data analysis and stock assessment. Inter-sessional assignments were identified and proposed for completion by each of the trainees, in preparation for the second phase of the course.

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 achievements to date

The Consultant's *Final Report on the Study to Improve Compliance with EU Commission Sanitary Standards in the CARIFOUM 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, but the CRFM Secretariat is seeking clarification from CARISEC about project administration and implementation.

560.2: Study to review the impact of rising cost factors, such as capital, labour, maintenance and energy costs on fisheries operations in the CRFM Member States and propose appropriate strategies for dealing with the resulting issues [Proposed for funding under the ACP Fish II Project]

Background

In 2008, the unprecedented hike in food and fuel prices, related to the global oil crisis resulted in severe economic, social and political consequences in poor countries. High prices of agricultural inputs have become a major obstacle to developing countries' efforts to increase agricultural (including fisheries) production. The fisheries communities are part of the most affected groups and the high prices combined with overexploitation of many fish stocks to significantly contribute to decreasing production and profitability of fishing units, and to the increasing poverty (ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/meeting/014/aj308e.pdf).

There is no representative global data set on the costs of fishing. Fishing costs vary greatly by type of fishery and locality: for example, trawl fisheries tend to have high fuel costs, while many smaller vessels are non-motorized and the cost of subsistence fishing may be little more than the cost of the labor involved. In general, the major cost factors for most fisheries are:

- labor (30 – 50 percent of total costs)
- fuel (10 – 25 percent)
- fishing gear (5 – 15 percent)
- repair and maintenance (5 – 10 percent)
- capital cost, such as depreciation and interest (5 – 25 percent).

The trends in the costs of each of these factors of production are relevant not only for an understanding of the historical trends in fisheries but also to provide a basis for future projections of, for example, the effect of changing fuel prices. Available cost data must be treated with some caution, because the true cost data tend to be confounded by taxes and subsidies. There is ample evidence that at the global level productivity has deteriorated, especially in recent years, as the majority of producers incur higher fishing costs while the global catch has remained stagnant. (World Bank, 2008).

During the Twenty-Seventh Special Meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) (Agriculture) Georgetown, Guyana, May 21, 2008 the Surinamese delegation raised the issue of the impact of the high cost of fuel on the fisheries sector in Suriname. COTED endorsed a suggestion that a team of experts from CRFM, FAO, UWI (CERMES) and the CARICOM Secretariat be mobilised by CRFM to find alternatives to addressing the issue of high fuel prices affecting the Suriname Fisheries sector.

The CRFM initiated this exercise in July 2008 by contacting the agencies named by the COTED and requesting that each nominate an expert to be a part of the team, with the resulting team having been identified as Terrence Phillips, Programme Manager, Fisheries Management and Development, CRFM; Margaret Kalloo, Deputy Programme Manager, Agricultural Development Unit, CARISEC; Bisessar Chakallal, Senior Fisheries Officer, FAO; and Robin Mahon, UWI-CERMES. In addition the Executive Director of the CRFM has asked that the Deputy Executive Director participate in the exercise. However, due to Suriname taking internal actions to address the matter; the fall in oil prices globally and inadequate funds to initiate the study, its implementation was delayed.

At the July 2009 Forum, following on a discussion relating to Suriname's request which resulted in Member States commenting on the effects of high fuel prices on their fishing industry operations and returns on investments. It was recognized that CRFM States needed to guard against future economic shocks such as spikes in fuel prices; reduce economic risks; modernise with a view to improving the efficiency of the fishing fleets in the region; reduce barriers to accessing new markets; and address price fluctuations for commercially important species by promoting and developing value added products, etc. As such, it was recommended that the CRFM Secretariat would revise and update the Terms of Reference that was prepared in 2008 to address the fuel crisis issue for review by the Member States and activate the Working Group previously established. The Revised TOR should be aimed at addressing the issues affecting production, efficiency and profitability of fishing vessels and the broader areas of fishery operation. The Study will make recommendations to address the various issues affecting the efficiency and profitability of fishing vessels, and the broader issue of improving the competitiveness of fishery operation in the region. It was also agreed that the report and recommendations should be submitted to the next Forum Meeting for consideration, and that the Executive Committee would monitor and oversee the assignment including the development of the TOR and completion of the study.

The ACP Fish II Project was developed with the intention of accessing resources to improve fisheries policy development and execution in Caribbean ACP States. The CRFM Secretariat will work with Member States to access the resources available to address the national and regional priority needs identified including the undertaking of this Study.

Objective

To undertake a study to review the impact of the rising cost factors, such as capital, labour, maintenance and energy costs on fisheries operations in the CRFM Member Stares and propose appropriate policy options and strategies for dealing with the resulting issues in order to improve efficiency, improve on productivity, and reduce economic risks to the sector.

Approach

Under the general direction of the Executive Director, the Resource Persons identified from the agencies mentioned above will be assigned for thirty (30) person days to undertake the study and prepare the necessary report. Literature research, field visits, workshop discussions and report preparations will take place in April – June 2010.

Highlights of achievement during the period April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011

The Project was revised and submitted for consideration under the ACP Fish II Project.

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 period April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011:

The Fourth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum (CFF) requested the preparation of a regional declaration on IUU fishing. In this regard, the CRFM Secretariat convened a Regional Workshop in Montego Bay, Jamaica, December 6, 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 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.

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. At the Forum in July 2009 in St. Lucia, the Member States were requested to submit their feedback on the Draft Declaration to facilitate its completion and adoption. Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago have since provided feedback. The Draft Declaration was presented at the Ministerial Council Meeting in January 2010 in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, which agreed to accept the CRFM Draft Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing, in principle, while recognising the need for Member States to further consult with stakeholders at the national level. At the Second Ministerial Council Meeting in March 2010 in Suriname, the Council approved the Draft Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing with the agreement that Barbados would submit any remaining comments within two weeks of the Meeting.

The Draft IUU Declaration was approved by the Ministerial Council Meeting in July 2010, in St. Lucia and is now referred to as The Castries (St. Lucia) Declaration on IUU Fishing.

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, October 18 – 20, 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.

OUTPUT 600 COMMUNICATION AND DOCUMENTATION
ACTIVITY 600 : Communication and Documentation Output: Functioning and efficient Documentation Centre operations; Publications Disseminated. Computer networks functioning. Activity Start: April 1, 2010 End: March 31, 2011
Activity Progress Report Summary Total Budget: US$24,761 Spent: US$9,004 Balance: US$15,757 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 √

WBS 600: COMMUNICATION AND DOCUMENTATION

The CRFM Secretariat's Website

Background:

During the reporting period, 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.

- The Consultant who was hired to redesigned the website, provided training to the staff at the Belize office on the maintenance of the webpage.

- The staff at the Belize office located (hard copies and electronic copies) of all the documents that have been published by the CRFM and uploaded all documents to the website.

- A special area in the CRFM library has been organised to store the hard copies of the documents.

- The staff at the Belize office received further training from the consultant on the maintenance of the site

APPENDIX A:

PROCUREMENT LIST

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM - Secretariat

Programming Unit

Financial Information Report

List of Assets

Project Name: Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism - Secretariat

For the period starting: April 1, 2010 Ending: March 31, 2011

Purchase Date	Cheque or Ref. No.	QTY	**Equipment description**	**Model**	**Cost US$**	**Location**
9 / 30 / 2010	03166	1	HP DeskJet F4480 AIO PR USB Printer / Scanner / Copier	Hewlett Packard	$ 110.97	**Belize**
Total US$					**$110.97**	

APPENDIX B:

CRFM SECRETARIAT STAFF

APPENDIX B

CRFM SECRETARIAT STAFF

COORDINATION and MANAGEMENT

NAME	POST	Skills Area/Level
Hugh Saul	Executive Director	MSc. / MBA / Cert. Exec. Management
Milton Haughton	Deputy Executive Director	MSc. / Dip. Manag. / Dip Law / Dip Legal Practice

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	Statistics and Information Analyst	MSc.
Maren Headley	Research Graduate: Research and Resource Assessment	MSc.

ADMINISTRATIVE & FINANCE SUPPORT

Andrew Barnes	Finance Officer	BSc.
Pamela Gibson	Administrative Secretary	
Sherlene Audinett	Senior Secretary	
Rochelle Staine-Gill	Documentation Clerk / Typist	
John Cyrus	Office Assistant / Driver	
Olin Myers	Clerk, Information Technology and Accounts	
Zelma Baizar-Nicholas	Office Attendant	

APPENDIX C:

REPORTING ON USAGE OF FINANCIAL INFLOWS

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM - Secretariat
Financial Information Report
Work Programme Budget Reconciliation
Currency: United States Dollars

Work Programme Period: April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011
Reporting Period: April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011

ACTIVITY	DETAILED PROJECT EXPENSES	Approved WP Budget	PREVIOUS EXPENDITURE TOTAL	4th Quarter (2010/2011)				Cummulative Expenditure TOTAL	Work Programme Budget	
				January	February	March	This Quarter		Balance	%
100	***Management and Support***	**$ 437,174**	**$ 266,670**				**$ 132,903**	**$ 399,573**	**$ 37,601**	**9%**
110	***General Administration***									
111	General Administration - Belize	82,833	75,707	6,105	6,635	13,533	26,273	101,980	**(19,147)**	**-23%**
112	Procurement - CRFM Secretariat	26,600	(3,645)	0	0	(111)	(111)	(3,756)	**30,356**	**114%**
113	Housing Complex and Office Maintenance	2,500	1,378	0	0	125	125	1,503	**997**	**40%**
114	Management Input (emoluments)	191,156	105,827	11,749	11,741	34,118	57,608	163,435	**27,721**	**15%**
120	***SVG Operations***									
121	General Administration - Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	41,306	39,270	3,834	3,675	1,887	9,395	48,665	**(7,359)**	**-18%**
140	***Programme Co-ordination***									
141	Coordination, Resource Mobilization and Auditing	15,700	12,162	1,793	0	1,745	3,538	15,700	**0**	**0%**
150	***Caribbean Fisheries Forum/Ministerial Council***									
150	Meeting of Caribbean Fisheries Forum/Ministerial Council	77,079	35,971	5,930	8,164	21,981	36,075	72,046	**5,033**	**7%**
200	***Advocacy, Policy and Planning***	**$ 72,163**	**$ 30,543**				**$ 12,460**	**$ 43,003**	**$ 29,160**	**40%**
201	Technical Input (Emoluments)	22,775	25,092	2,788	2,788	(7,893)	(2,317)	22,775	**0**	**0%**
210	***Policy and Planning***									
210.1	Formulation of a Common Fisheries Policy and Regime (CFP&R)	13,850	3,578	109	0	289	398	3,976	**9,874**	**71%**
210.2	Planning	21,772	720	109	0	14,270	14,379	15,099	**6,673**	**31%**
220	***Advocacy***									
220.1	Promoting the CRFM	13,766	1,153	0	0	0	0	1,153	**12,613**	**92%**
300	***Fisheries Statistics and Information***	**$ 85,358**	**$ 49,234**				**$ 29,994**	**$ 79,228**	**$ 6,130**	**7%**
301	Technical Input (Emoluments)	36,532	48,395	5,377	5,377	(22,617)	(11,863)	36,532	**(0)**	**0%**
301.2	Establishment of a Regional Fisheries Database (Donor funded)	8,621	0	0	0	6,180	6,180	6,180	**2,441**	**28%**
310/330	***Catch and Collection Systems***									
314.1	Training and Technical Assistance to develop the Sampling Systems for Catch, Effort, Biological and other Fisheri	4,731	0	0	0	3,692	3,692	3,692	**1,039**	**22%**
314.3	Caribbean Regional Information System (CARIFIS)	28,974	839	109	0	25,875	25,985	26,824	**2,150**	**7%**
330.1	Monitor and Provision of Technical Assistance (Trainers and Support) Data Collection	6,500	0	0	0	6,000	6,000	6,000	**500**	**8%**
									-	
400	***Fisheries Research and Resource Assessment***	**$ 270,069**	**$ 128,840**				**$ 50,008**	**$ 178,848**	**$ 91,221**	**34%**
401	Technical Input (Emoluments)	116,889	80,526	8,947	8,947	18,469	36,363	116,889	**(0)**	**0%**
401.2	Master Plan	6,982	0	0	0	0	0	0	**6,982**	**100%**
401.4	Provision of Technical Support at Regional and International Management For a (ICCAT)	19,282	839	109	0	8,456	8,565	9,404	**9,878**	**51%**
410	***Pelagics & Reef Fishes Resource Assessment***									
410.3	Reef and Slope Fisheries Working Group (CRFM RSWG)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	**0%**
410.2/412	Assess potential for devlpg or expndg large pelagic fisheries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	
413.2	Regional Network Partnership	22,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	**22,000**	**100%**
414.1	Fisheries Assessment and Methods Meetings	80,000	46,636	5,545	98	(961)	4,682	51,318	**28,682**	**36%**
414.2	CRFM Large Pelagics Fisheries Working Group (CRFM LPWG)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	
414.6	CRFM Working Group on Data. Methods and Training (DMTWG)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	
414.7	Small Coastal Pelagic Fisheries Working Group (CRFM SCPWG)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	
420	***Shrimp and Groundfish Resource Assessment***						0		**0**	
420.1	CRFM Shrimp and Groundfish Fisheries Working Group (CRFM SGWG)	11,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	**11,000**	**100%**
430/450	***Lobster and Conch Resource Assessment***						0		**0**	
430.1	Monitor and Provision of Technical Assistance	2,000	839	109	0	289	398	1,237	**763**	**38%**
450.1	CRFM Conch and Lobster Fisheries Working Group (CRFMCLWG)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	
450.2	Refional Rehabilitation programme for Queen Conch in CRFM Member States	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	
450.3	Feasibility Study to determine potential for developing spotted lobster fishereis in St. Lucia and St. Vincent & the Gr	11,916	0	0	0	0	0	0	**11,916**	**100%**

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM - Secretariat

Financial Information Report
Work Programme Budget Reconciliation
Currency: United States Dollars

Work Programme Period: April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011
Reporting Period: April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011

ACTIVITY	DETAILED PROJECT EXPENSES	Approved WP Budget	PREVIOUS EXPENDITURE TOTAL	4th Quarter (2010/2011) January	February	March	This Quarter	Cummulative Expenditure TOTAL	Work Programme Budget Balance	%
500	***Fisheries Resource Management and Development***	**$ 137,645**	**$ 72,293**				**$ 42,336**	**$ 114,629**	**$ 23,016**	**17%**
501	Technical Input (Emoluments)	30,361	39,889	7,003	7,003	(23,535)	(9,528)	30,361	**(0)**	**0%**
501.1	Provision of Technical Support at Regional and International Mgtmt. For a (CITIES)(FAO/WECAFC)	15,175	0	0	0	15,100	15,100	15,100	**75**	**0%**
501.2	Fisheries Master Plan for CARICOM: (CRFM/JICA)	13,941	11,571	0	0	0	0	11,571	**2,370**	**17%**
510	***Strengthening National Fisheries Management***									
512.2	Development and Implementation. of Fisheries Management Plans	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	
512.3	Strengthening Fisheries Management in ACP countries (ACP Fish 11)	13,941	9,615	109	0	700	809	10,424	**3,517**	**25%**
520	***Strengthening Regional Fisheries Management***						0			
520.1	Development of Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organizations	11,421	420	55	0	10,092	10,146	10,566	**855**	**7%**
520.2	Diagnostic Study to determine the Poverty Levels in fishing Comm. in selected CARICOM/CRFM Member States	10,456	5,785	0	0	4,000	4,000	9,785	**671**	**6%**
520.3	Management of Shared Resources	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	
520.4	Rehabilitation and Management of the Queen Conch. (Strombus gigas) Resources in CARICOM States	3,485	0	0	0	0	0	0	**3,485**	**100%**
520.5	Enhance the effectiveness of the MCS in the CARICOM Region	7,835	0	0	0	5,500	5,500	5,500	**2,335**	**30%**
520.6	IOCARIBE/GEF Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project (CLME)	7,835	0	0	0	5,500	5,500	5,500	**2,335**	**30%**
520.8	Reduction of Fishers' Vulnerability to Disasters	5,214	0	0	0	4,114	4,114	4,114	**1,100**	**21%**
520.9	Sustainable Aquatic Resources Management (SARM)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	
530	***Fishers and Community Inv/Education***							0	**0**	**0%**
530.1	Monitoring and Provision of Technical Assistance	1,996	300	55	0	144	199	499	**1,497**	**75%**
540	***Human Resource Development***							0		
540.1	Training and Scholarships	7,500	4,713	55	0	144	199	4,912	**2,588**	**35%**
540.2	Short Term Training	0	0	0	0	0			**0**	
560	***Improved Postharvest, Processing and Marketing***								**0**	
560.1	Support for Standards and Related Requirements for Global Trade	8,485	0	0	0	6,296	6,296	6,296	**2,189**	**26%**
600	***Communication and Documentation***	**$ 24,761**	**$ 1,527**				**$ 7,477**	**$ 9,004**	**$ 15,757**	**64%**
610/630	***Information and Network Administration***									
610.1	Publication and Disemination of Technical Reports	10,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	**10,000**	**100%**
620.1	Information and Documentation Centre Operations	2,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	**2,000**	**100%**
630.1	Net Work Administration	12,761	1,527	210	192	7,076	7,477	9,004	**3,757**	**29%**
	Total	**$ 1,027,170**	**$ 549,108**	**$ 60,101**	**$ 54,621**	**$ 160,457**	**$ 275,179**	**$ 824,287**	**$ 202,884**	**20%**

I hereby certify that all the expenditures reported here are in accordance with CARICOM/CRFM activity proposals which have been approved by Member States. I further certify that these figures are fully supported by original receipts and invoices which are on file at the CRFM Secretariat Office and available for audit scrutiny.

Signature of the Executive Director

Hugh A. Saul
Executive Director's Name (Printed)

Date: July 4, 2011

Financing Plan PY 2009/2010	Budget	Actual	Variance	
Member States Contribution Fiscal Year 2010/2011	**$ 970,000**	**896,372**	**$ 73,628**	**92%**
Member States Contributions from Arrears Pre 1/4/10	**569,572**	**180,877**	**388,696**	**32%**
Donor Supported Projects :				
JICA - Fisheries Master Plans	**75,100**	**19,000**	**$ 56,100**	
EU - ACP Fish II	**74,600**	**0**	**$ 74,600**	
Spain - Diagnostic Study - Poverty Levels	**303,000**	**91,662**	**211,338**	
CTA - CNFO	**27,206**	**0**	**27,206**	
GEF - CLME	**129,575**	**181,016**	**(51,441)**	
UNU - FTP Training	**135,009**	**155,079**	**(20,070)**	
Other Donors (Govt. of Iceland, CDEMA)	**110,098**	**19,970**	**90,128**	
Subtotal	**$ 2,394,160**	**$ 1,543,976**	**$ 850,185**	

Member States Contribution	Budget	Actual	Variance
Member States Contribution Fiscal Year 2010/11	**$ 2,607,554**	**2,409,627**	**197,927**
Member States Contributions from Arrears Pre 1/4/10	**1,531,124**	**486,233**	**$ 1,044,891**
Total	**$ 4,138,678**	**2,895,860**	**$ 1,242,818**

Projected Receipts	US$	US$	US$	
Member States Contribution	**Projected Receipts**	**Actual**	**Variance**	
Projected Member States Contribution Fiscal Year 2010/2011)	**$ 776,000**	**896,372**	**(120,372)**	**116%**
Projected Member States Contributions from Arrears Pre 1/4/10	**269,543**	**180,877**	**$ 88,666**	**67%**
Total	**$ 1,045,543**	**1,077,249**	**$ (31,706)**	