



#cop15 ready!

We're looking forward to the 15th Conference of Parties of the United Nations' Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to be held later this year. From October 11 to 15, the first phase will be held virtually, and will wrap up with a face to face session from December 5 to 17 in Montreal Canada.

Stay in the loop with what's happening via the CBD's [website](#) and social media platforms.

These fields and hills: CPAG takes on Barbados

The team from the Caribbean Protected Areas Gateway kicked off its Barbados engagement series by volunteering at CocoHill Forest, located in the parish of St. Joseph. Although the rain threatened to make for an interesting Sunday morning in the island's slippery Scotland District, the team was able to spend a few hours assisting with the regeneration of a previously forested area.



Understanding that reforestation, tree planting and agroforestry all support Barbados' national biodiversity targets, the team volunteered to help plant trees, create pathways and assist with composting. This activity was the beginning of a series of engagements planned for Barbados in the coming months. Stay tuned for more!

COCOHILL FOREST- WHERE PASSION AND PURPOSE MEET NATURE

Over on the eastern coast of Barbados, lies CocoHill Forest which has been a labour of love and passion for Mahmood Patel and his small team. With a focus on regenerative agroforestry, Cocohill Forest has been working to restore the Scotland District of Barbados, with hopes of transforming it into a bread basket for the island.

After decades of sugar cane monoculture, this project aims to regenerate the soil, assist in carbon sequestration, and provide a source of food security. The Scotland District holds pride of place as the first part of the island to emerge from beneath the surface millennia ago.

Although accounting for 17% of Barbados' small land space, due to its vulnerability to land slippage, it has been mostly abandoned. However, the team at CocoHill have been making strides to repurpose the land as a viable agro-tourism product. From planting trees and crops using bio-mimicry, to preserving the natural environment, the Scotland District as a biodiversity hotspot has a bright future ahead.



Photo Credit: CocoHill Forest

BIOPAMA GRANTEE FEATURE



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The Iwokrama Forest is "a place of refuge" located in the heart of Guyana, providing a dedicated site in which to test the concept of a truly sustainable forest. With its research centre on site, the Iwokrama International Centre for Rainforest Conservation and Development believes that conservation, environmental balance and economic use can be mutually reinforcing.

[This project, funded by the BIOPAMA Action Component](#), will strengthen Iwokrama's monitoring and enforcement capacity while supporting community livelihoods through business development training.

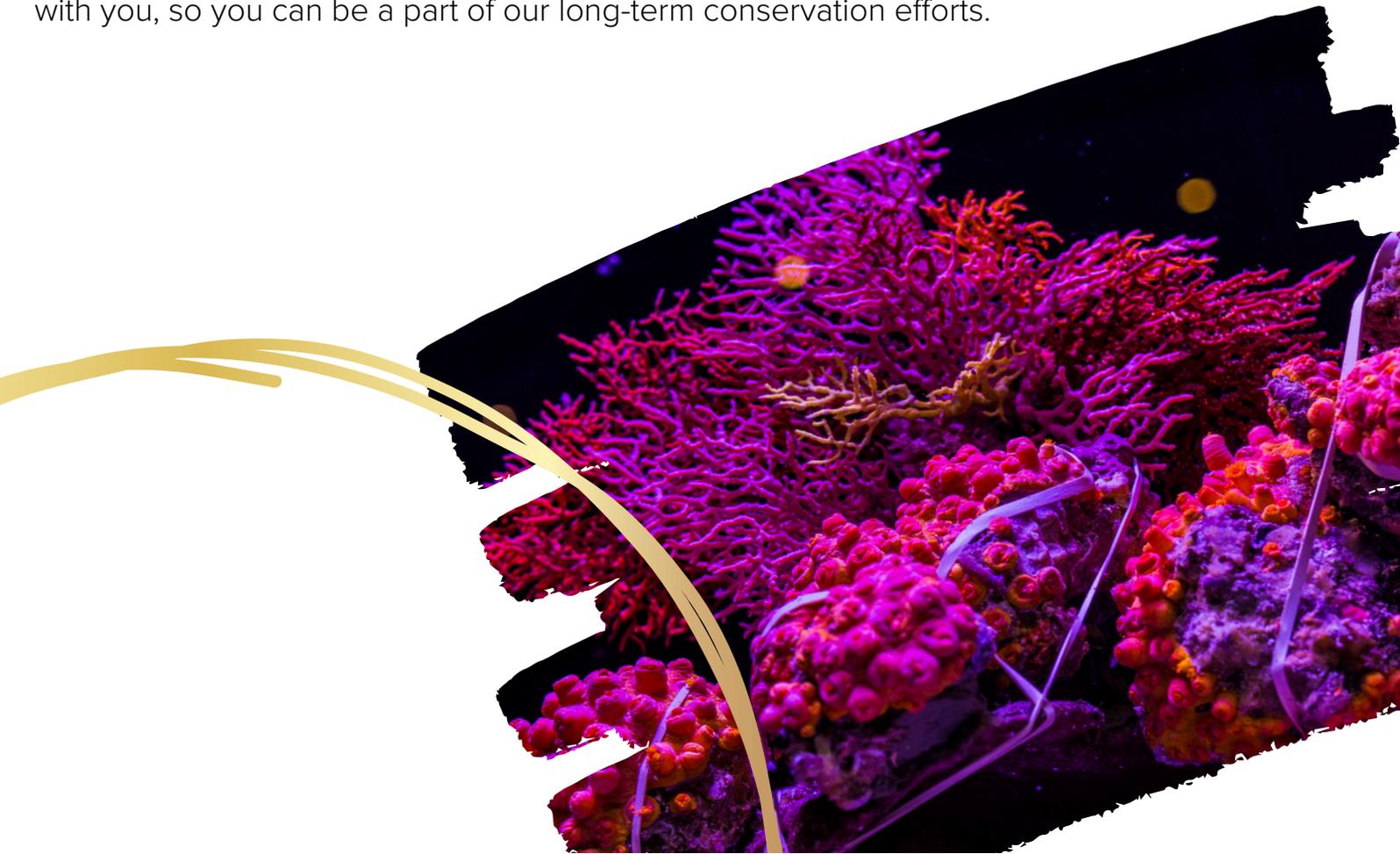
[click to view more!](#)

CPAG working to improve biodiversity and protected and conserved area data and information

As our world continues to change, so does the data we use to understand our environment and species. We are also aware that many data gaps still exist regarding the data and information available pertaining to biodiversity and protected and conserved areas within countries. The CPAG is seeking to identify existing biodiversity and protected and conserved areas related data and information, in addition to identifying existing data and information gaps for Dominica, St Lucia, St Kitts and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada and Belize.

The CPAG intends to achieve the aforementioned via consultants to provide support to the team's current work on data and information gaps, by conducting thorough literature and database reviews using consultants.

When this consultancy is completed, the CPAG will make our data available online, so you can use it to make better decisions. This update and improvement in data will enable you to better understand our biodiversity and the world we share. We're excited to share our data with you, so you can be a part of our long-term conservation efforts.





Eyes on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

Over the years the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) has acted as a framework for a wide range of biodiversity-focused activities, from protecting ecosystems and species to studying and protecting genetic diversity. The next meeting of the parties to the treaty will take place in December 2022, when the parties will determine the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

This framework will guide the future work of the parties, including the operation of the UN Systematic Biodiversity Assessment and the implementation of the UN Strategic Plan for Biodiversity. Despite an increase in policies and actions to support biodiversity, indicators show that the drivers of biodiversity loss have worsened and that biodiversity further declined between 2011 and 2020.

This is due in part to the fact that efforts have been focused on a small number of species and processes, and little has been invested in a broader understanding of the drivers of biodiversity. This upcoming meeting is important as it will lay the framework to halt biodiversity loss by 2030 and achieve recovery by 2050, which requires additional investment in nature equivalent to between 0.7 and 1% of annual global GDP.

Of particular interest is Target 3 which asks Parties to the CBD to ensure that at least 30 per cent globally of land areas and of sea areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and its contributions to people, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.

As a biodiversity hotspot, this target will be critical for the Caribbean. Scientific evidence shows that efforts to achieve the CBD Aichi Convention Targets and the Sustainable Development Goal to conserve 10% of marine and coastal habitats have been tremendous, but is still insufficient to halt biodiversity loss and protect the wide gamut of ecosystem services provided.

We'd love to hear your thoughts on this specific target, including recommendations for the Caribbean. Share your thoughts via email to info@thecpag.org or via our social media poll found [here](#).



OPPORTUNITIES

Call for proposals

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) and the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) are pleased to announce that the third call for proposals under the current CEPF investment in the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot is now open.

This call is open for proposals for site- or conservation corridor-based activities in eligible geographies in Antigua & Barbuda, The Bahamas, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and St. Vincent & the Grenadines. It is also open for national, regional or multi-country capacity building and networking activities that target groups and organisations from any or all of the previously listed countries and the Dominican Republic and Haiti. While capacity building activities can take place in the Dominican Republic, no activities can be implemented in Haiti under this call.

The deadline to submit letters of interest (LOIs) is Tuesday, 23 August 2022 (11:59 p.m. Washington D.C. time). For more information, [click here](#).

Funding opportunity

The Blue Action Fund has launched an open call for proposals for the Caribbean region. See [this website](#) for more details.

IUCN Opportunities

- “Development of Course Curriculum for Protected Area Management Effectiveness Facilitators/Trainers, Barbados”

The Regional Office for Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean of the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), within the BIOPAMA Program, requires professional consultancy services for the “Development of Course Curriculum for Protected Area Management Effectiveness Facilitators/Trainers, Barbados”. Consultancy and application details can be found via [this link](#). Deadline for submission of proposals to IUCN: 17/08/2022.

- Consultancy to update the St Kitts National Physical Development Plan

IUCN has made an open call for proposals to update the St. Kitts National Physical Development Plan under the SKN SLM Project. To find out more about this consultancy opportunity please visit [this website](#). The deadline for submission of proposals to IUCN: 21/08/2022

New #BIOPAMA Call for Proposals launched!

BIOPAMA is pleased to announce the launch of its latest Call for Proposals for Small Technical Grants in the Caribbean

The objective of this call for proposals is to address priorities for action, identified through management and governance effectiveness assessments (for example, Protected Area Management Effectiveness (PAME) tools including IMET, METT, RAPPAM, Green List, EoH or equivalent; or Protected Area Governance Evaluation (PAGE) tools including SAPA, GAPA, SAGE), to improve the management and governance of protected and conserved areas, and the sustainable use of natural resources and livelihoods of surrounding local communities.

Learn more here: <https://action.biopama.org/stg-2022-caribbean/>

Eligible countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Belize, Barbados, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

Caribbean Protected Areas Gateway

Do you have a biodiversity or conservation-related article, good practice story or opportunity you'd like to submit? Email us at info@thecpag.org to be featured in our newsletter, email blasts and on our social media.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES



AUGUST 27

**WALKERS RESERVE
ST. ANDREW, BARBADOS**

Photo Credit: Walkers Reserve

ECO MARKET AND TREE PLANTING

The CPAG will be partnering with Walkers Institute for Regenerative Research, Education and Design (WIRRED) to host an Eco Market and Tree Planting activity, which promises to be fun for the entire family! We'll be on hand to engage you on how the CPAG adds value to managers of protected and conserved areas, decision makers and communities, while having some fun and planting trees. Stay tuned to our social media pages for more details!



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