

Many of the actions required for achieving ICZM on a SIDS like Saint Lucia need to be implemented and adopted at the national level. Also, as has been indicated previously, a number of governmental agencies share responsibility for the management and development of the island's coast

**TOWARD THE
DEVELOPMENT OF AN
INTEGRATED COASTAL
ZONE MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR SAINT LUCIA**

Stakeholder Consultation Report, 2015.

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Protecting Island Biodiversity

Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA)

Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project

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PREPARATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

This report is produced in response to a Terms of Reference prepared under the contract agreement between the European Union-Global Climate Change Alliance (EU-GCCA), the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Energy, Science and Technology and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). The consultancy required a facilitation and reporting of dialogue among key stakeholders in marine and coastal area management. The scope of the work was as follows:

- Facilitation of stakeholder meetings and consultations to determine necessary updates and changes to the Coastal Zone Management Strategy and Action Plan; to guide the way forward for wetland conservation; and to define a strategy for beach management in Saint Lucia. These are to be informed by relevant documents and initiatives.
- Preparation and presentation of PowerPoints and consultation reports, as appropriate, including as part of reports, recommendations to guide the way forward.

FOREWORD

The coastal ecosystem plays an important role in enabling countries to exploit fishery resources, to protect and stabilize their coastlines, to develop areas of recreation (bathing, water sports, diving, snuba, snorkeling) and to conserve a wide range of biodiversity. The coast is even more important for small islands as the entire land space can be considered “coastal”. With the myriad of streams and rivers that crisscross their way to the ocean, coastal waters are undoubtedly impacted by activities that occur on land, even sometimes many kilometers inland.

In order to safeguard the various services that countries can enjoy from the coast, care must be taken to manage behavior so that resources are exploited sustainably, wildlife are not endangered as a result of habitat degradation, marine waters are not polluted by domestic, agrochemical and industrial wastes, sediment and sewage. As coastal areas are often in demand for multiple and

sometimes conflicting uses (agriculture, mariculture, tourism, fisheries, and various forms of recreation....) it is critical that an organized and integrated approach to management be developed. Through the establishment of Coastal Zone Management Plans, countries can select what activities occur on which coast, and when. In 2006, Saint Lucia produced a draft Coastal Zone Management Strategy and Action Plan (CZMSAP). In 2015, many years later, an effort is being made to review this draft plan. Of primary importance is the identification of actions that will enrich the ecological services provided by the mangroves, coral reefs, sea grasses, river mouths, coastal plains, inshore and offshore waters. Of equal importance is the identification of social and economic priorities of the State, especially with respect to persons who live along the coast. Finally, the factors that impair access to the many benefits of coastal resources need to be identified and minimized.. An integrated, strategic management plan helps maximize benefits to users, protect coastal resources and reduce environmental threats. During the review process, a number of coastal zone related issues were identified as being of concern to workshop participants. Many of these issues are not new and most likely were the driving force in the development of the draft plan in 2006. Recommended actions arising from this workshop include updating the plan as many activities were listed as being short-term and so should have been achieved to date if components of the draft plan had been implemented. A review of the draft CZMSAP confirms that some of the issues listed in Section 4 are attended to whilst others, such as the invasion by the lion fish, are fairly current and not adequately addressed.

Despite the extensive coverage of issues by the draft CZMSAP, it is noted that pollution, sedimentation, over exploitation, illegal harvests, inappropriate agriculture and infrastructure development still feature prominently along Saint Lucia's coasts. Maybe therefore the issue is not so much the presence or absence of a management plan but rather clearly prescribed actions and a monitoring and evaluation strategy that will enable the responsible authorities to adequately implement recommended actions and monitor their progress of work.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CZMAC	Coastal Zone Management Advisory Committee
CZMU	Coastal Zone Management Unit
DAC	Development Control Authority
DVRP	Disaster Vulnerability Reduction Project
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EU	European Union
GCCA	Global Climate Change Alliance
IAS	Invasive Alien Species
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
IWCAM	Integrated Watershed and Coastal Area Management
LBS	Land Based Sources
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (now the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Production, Fisheries Cooperatives and Rural Development)
MMA's	Marine Management Areas
MOT	Ministry of Tourism (now Tourism, Heritage and Creative Industries)
MPAs	Marine Protected Areas
MPDEH	Ministry of Physical Development, Environment and Housing (now the Ministry of Physical Development, Housing and Urban Renewal)
NEP- NEMS	National Environmental Policy- National Environment Strategy
OECS	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
PPCR	Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience
WRMA	Water Resources Management Agency
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SLNT	Saint Lucia National Trust

1. INTRODUCTION

Objective of Meeting: Consultative process toward: (i) revision of the Coastal Zone Management Strategy and Action Plan for Saint Lucia; (ii) development of a National Policy for Wetlands Conservation and Management; and (iii) Strategies for Beach Management in Saint Lucia.

Date of Consultation: April 23 and 24, 2015

Venue: Palmville Meeting Room at the Coco Palm Resort, Rodney Bay, Gros Islet

Final Agenda (in Annex)

List of Participants (in Annex)

2. CONTRIBUTING AGENCIES / ORGANIZATIONS

- ✓ Anbaglo Dive Association
- ✓ Aupicon Charcoal Producers Association
- ✓ Association of Professional Engineers of Saint Lucia
- ✓ Climate Change Team and Coastal Zone Management Unit, Ministry of Sustainable Development, Energy, Science and Technology
- ✓ Forests and Land Resources Development Department, Ministry of Sustainable Development, Energy, Science and Technology
- ✓ Crown Lands, Ministry of Physical Development, Housing and Urban Renewal
- ✓ Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture, Food Production, Fisheries, Cooperatives and Rural Development
- ✓ Marine Police, Ministry of Legal Affairs, Home Affairs and National Security
- ✓ Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
- ✓ Saint Lucia Air and Sea Ports Authority
- ✓ Saint Lucia National Trust
- ✓ Sea Moss Farmer Producers

3. METHODOLOGY

As a first part to the consultative exercise, participants were invited to identify and list coastal Zone management issues which they believed are current and relevant to achieving sustainability in the exploitation of resources and ecological services in Saint Lucia. Participants were tasked with defining their issues as best as possible, under various prescribed headings. The headings provided focus on areas which are believed to be of greatest importance and applicability to coastal services in Saint Lucia. The following lists, per heading, are not in any order of priority, but are

simply indicators of the issues that participants recommend should be addressed in a revised coastal zone management strategy and action plan.

4. KEY ISSUES OF CONCERN AND PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

4.1 Fisheries and Aquaculture

- Sea level rise;
- Coral bleaching;
- Acidification of oceans;
- Degradation of the coral reef;
- Loss of coastal productivity;
- Dynamiting and subsequent coral reef destruction;
- Chemical leaching into marine environment (agro-chemicals , pesticides);
- Unsustainable fishing;
- Decline in availability of sea eggs / sea urchins;
- Absence of integrated legislation pertaining to coastal development, fisheries, tourism and marine reserves;
- Inadequate fines for Fisheries infractions;
- Poor enforcement of Fisheries legislation;
- Poor management / regulation of pig farms;
- Increased presence of invasive species; lionfish causing significant damage to reef fish populations;
- No adequate response to lionfish invasion;
- Conversion of agriculture lands to inappropriate developments that threaten the integrity of the marine ecosystem;
- Absence of water quality standards;
- Absence of protocols for development of mariculture projects;
- Absence of water quality standards and monitoring protocols to guide the expansion of the seamoss industry;
- Competition with tourism for use of beach and near shore areas (beach seining).
- Competition with tourism and public use of the beach (bathing, snorkeling, mooring).

Recommendations

Whilst there seems to be adequate legislation to support fisheries management on the island, failure to adequately implement and enforce this legislation may contribute to a decline in the capacity of the coastal zone to support food security. Greater investment is required to support the effective implementation of the Fisheries Act and Regulations. Mechanisms that can ensure effective monitoring and enforcement of the Fisheries legislation should be elaborated within the CZMSAP.

4.2 Beaches

- Lack of access by the public (either via footpath or road);
- Unregulated access to beaches by the public during nesting of certain species (endangered);
- Driving on the sandy portions;
- Presence and impacts of animals such as horses and stray dogs;
- Beach erosion;
- Illegal sand mining;
- Legal but destructive sand mining;
- Loss of marine turtle nesting habitat / sites;
- Absence of zoning for fisheries and recreational activities;
- Littering of beaches (both from land and marine sources);
- Loud music on beaches;
- Unplanned and unregulated beach events such as large parties;
- Construction and or installation of temporary and permanent structures on sand dunes and just behind the dunes;
- Leaching from sewerage systems, washroom and kitchen facilities;
- Infringement of houses, hotels, restaurants, farmlands, aquaculture farms onto the beachfront;
- Inappropriate beach nourishment projects;
- Absence of regulations pertaining to beach lighting, beach furniture, erection of semi-permanent structures that can impair successful nesting of species such as marine turtles;
- Failure to obtain the correct permits before commencing beach nourishment and other beach transformation projects.

Recommendations

Several of the issues listed in Section 4.2 are alluded to in the current coastal zone management strategy and action plan. However, it is necessary for the issues to be given more specific attention within the revised document. Of all the areas of the coastal zone, beaches are the sites most visited by the general public. The beach is the area where the public can have the greatest impact on the coastal zone and also make the greatest contribution to coastal conservation and protection. For this reason, greater effort should be made to develop simple protocols to guide public behaviour. Protocols can be easily communicated to the public through the use of appropriate signage along the island's beaches. Simple Dos and Don'ts will help remind beach goers of what is acceptable behavior on the island's beaches. Contact information of the agency with responsibility for beach management should be placed on these information signs, located in clear view at all beaches. This will assist the public in reporting infractions of beach rules, as well as instances of observed pollution, beach degradation, turtle nesting, fish kills etc. The

opportunity to raise awareness amongst management will help promote a sense of ownership amongst beach goers.

Further discussion on the next steps to be considered for beach management are presented in Section 8 of this report.

4.3 Tourism

- Beach alterations by hotels, without appropriate permits;
- Dumping of liquid waste by yachts in marinas, bays and other nearshore areas;
- Dumping of untreated sewage in coastal areas, by hotels;
- Lack of regular monitoring on impacts of sewage on water quality;
- Lack of regular monitoring of water quality of recreational waters islandwide;
- Repeated failure to circulate water quality test results to the public, especially results from recreational water testing;
- Subsequent lack of information by the public with respect to local recreational water quality conditions and minimum international standards;
- Absence of clear guidelines for location of tourism infrastructure on beaches;
- Inadequate monitoring of impact of hotels on beach and offshore ecosystems;
- Inadequate penalties for infringements of coastal zone regulations;
- Reef die-offs as a result of excessive exposure to sewage and sediment;
- Absence of stipulated diver carrying capacities for popular reefs islandwide;
- Over exploitation of fisheries due to unregulated sport fishing;
- Continued user conflicts with regard to pedestrian beach access.

Recommendations

This is an important sector contributing significantly to the GDP. It must therefore be well managed whilst at the same time, ensuring that other sectors are given equal opportunities to function. Tourism activities must also be regulated in order that the sector not become a threat to itself. Beaches need to be zoned to facilitate, in addition to tourism, commercial fishing, agriculture, aqua/mariculture (specifically seamoss farming), and recreational use by residents, specifically with regard to water sports. Due to increasing demand for access to certain beaches, the concept of carrying capacity must be included in decision making. Excessive use of beaches adversely impacts user enjoyment and benefits and can prove to be harmful as the rate of accidents can increase. The installation of some infrastructure to facilitate tourism must be carefully addressed to avoid inappropriate transformation of beaches for short-term benefits.

4.4 Infrastructure

- Vulnerability of hotels and other coastal structures to storm damage;
- Vulnerability of roads, towns, villages, sea and airports to storm damage;
- Unauthorized construction or expansion of infrastructure along the coast or on the beachfront;
- Establishment of infrastructure that conflicts with the natural landscape and aesthetics;
- Deployment of infrastructure in nearshore areas (such as over the water, or within mangroves) in the absence of environmental impact assessments;
- Installment of infrastructure without adequate consideration given to potential impacts of climate change, impacts on inshore and seine fisheries, and other marine/coastal users (including vessel traffic).

Recommendations

Mapping of the coastal areas, taking into consideration existing geographic features, ongoing social and economic activities, location of marine reserves, off shore fishing grounds and infrastructure, will enable planners to determine if and where new infrastructure can be deployed / installed. The presence of the Queen's chain (186.5ft from the high water mark) helps in defining setbacks for coastal infrastructure. Pollution control must also be given high priority with well-defined protocols established for addressing sewage, grey water and solid waste. Consideration should be given to the establishment of public facilities (bath and toilet) at all heavily used beaches. The challenge, however, remains with respect to the disposal of the sewage from the public washrooms, as sand is not the best filter for septic systems.

4.5 Forests & Mangroves

- Loss of mangroves due to charcoal production;
- Unregulated deforestation in mangroves;
- Illegal planting of crops within mangroves;
- Die back of mangroves;
- Destruction of coastal vegetation;
- Inconsistencies in management from one mangrove to another;
- Location of several mangrove forests on private lands;
- Poor law enforcement with respect to deforestation and exploitation of mangroves;
- Lack of demarcation of mangroves, especially those declared marine reserves;
- Landfilling of mangroves in the absence of permits;
- Absence of, or lenient penalties for unregulated and or illegal activity in mangroves;
- Difficulties in penalizing offenders for illegal activities within mangroves;

- Lack of appreciation of the value of mangroves by the general public, including hotel and private property owners.

Recommendations

Due to the unique issues associated with mangroves islandwide, including:

- i) the continued steady decline in the quality of the mangrove forests and coverage on the island;
- ii) the absence of any organized form of management at almost all sites;
- iii) the absence of information on the status of several of the mangroves despite the declaration of several of these sites as marine reserves;
- iv) the global importance of mangrove forests for coastal protection, biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation;

...there is an urgent need to develop a Mangrove Management Strategy and Action Plan for Saint Lucia.

4.6 Coastal Zone

- Absence of a clear or legal definition of the Queen's chain;
- Lack of clarity on the criteria for the leasing of crown lands;
- Lack of clarity on the location and size of the queen's chain;
- Lack of clarity with respect to the high tide line;
- Conflict in land ownership and management with regard to private lands that border the Queen's chain, and lands that have been impacted due to severe coastal erosion;
- Inadequate regulation of the leasing of the queen's chain;
- Illegal dumping of solid waste in coastal areas;
- Degradation of marine habitats;
- Unplanned development and allocation of land in coastal areas (sometimes as a result of political influence);
- Insufficient public awareness and as a consequence, inadequate understanding by the public of the fragility of the coastal area and the regulations pertaining to land use, sand mining and solid waste dumping;
- Inadequate institutional arrangements for coastal management;
- Overlapping and or unclear mandates of various management agencies. This sometimes leads to insufficient collaboration between partner agencies.
- Approval of development projects in absence of EIAs;
- Insufficient monitoring and as a consequence inadequate implementation of EIA terms and conditions;

- Lenient penalties and or absence of enforcement of penalties for infringement of national regulations and or project terms and conditions;
- Absence of appropriate setbacks/buffers in coastal development plans;
- Inadequate assessments before establishment of coastal infrastructure;
- Weak enforcement of Physical Planning Act and lenient penalties for infringement of the Act;
- Insufficient data collection;
- Reluctance to bind coastal zone land developers to terms and conditions of permits (example: requirement to monitor adjacent natural resource areas or resources).

Recommendations

Ensure that the concerns and issues identified in Section 4.6 are addressed in the revised CZMSAP.

4.7 Marine Protected Areas

- Reef destruction to facilitate marina development;
- High levels of sedimentation in outflowing rivers and in bays;
- Inadequate management of marine protected areas (MPAs) and marine management areas (MMAs) to ensure effectiveness;
- Inadequate monitoring of the effectiveness of MPAs and MMAs;
- Insufficient protocols in place to address invasive alien species (IAS);
- Unplanned development in coastal areas encroaching on marine reserves;
- Inadequate investment in coastal management;
- Inadequate legal structure and mandate for user fee collection;
- Inadequate training of persons involved in interfacing with users;
- Conflict in roles between personnel used as guides vs. fee collectors and law enforcers at marine managed areas such as the Soufriere Marine Management Area (SMMA);
- Inadequate sensitization of judiciary in infringements and the greater impact of such offences;
- Inadequate judicial system for addressing marine/coastal and other environmental infringements to facilitate the rapid responses required;
- Absence of, and or reluctance to charge users nominal fees for the management of the marine/coastal environment;
- Insufficient financial allocations for general maintenance of MMAs and other coastal areas;
- Difficulty in accessing funds received from fees (collected e.g. at ports of entry) once these enter the consolidated fund.

Recommendations

Most coastal dwellers who have spent most of their lifetime utilizing marine resources to earn a livelihood are often fearful when they hear that an area is being considered as an MPA or MMA. The reason for the concern is understandable. The fisher, charcoal producer, or vendor, is concerned that access to the site or some natural resource will be restricted. Politicians are also hesitant to declare areas as protected sites due to i) the concerns by voters as to who truly benefits and ii) the often accompanying need to allocate funds to manage the site. Most often, cash investments are necessary, but returns may be long in materializing and not often tangible or obvious. The issues highlighted in section 4.7 are therefore often difficult to address as political will is an important component. Community empowerment is also very essential to sustain MPAs and MMAs. The current CZMSAP makes provision to empower persons to manage the coastal zone for their benefit. What seems to be lacking is the strategy to support this process. This must be better articulated in the revised document.

5. DOCUMENT REVISION PROCESS

Workshop participants were divided and placed in a number of groups, based on a set of common criteria. Each group was then provided with a worksheet detailing a specific area within the draft¹ Coastal Zone Management Strategy and Action Plan (from now on to be referred to as the CZMSAP) to be reviewed. Each worksheet included a particular Strategic Action, as well as several Regional Actions for closer assessment and updating. Groups were invited to identify areas /text within their allocated sections which required upgrading or total revision, based on achievements to date or based on current events that have or would have affected the relevance or suitability of the proposed activity(ies). Participants were invited to take into consideration the issues defined earlier at the workshop under the various thematic areas and to ensure that these concerns were addressed in the draft document. Where necessary, new wording was to be proposed. In some instances, it was understood that the participants could only specify the need to update several components of the report, recognizing that some activities were planned for the “short term” most of them should have been achieved or at least commenced. Due to the absence of representation from some agencies at the consultation, it was not possible to get confirmation on the status of several of these short term activities. The consultant expects that whoever is contracted to revise the document, will by necessity **visit the relevant agencies and compile the updates.**

The resulting responses from groups were presented in plenary during the two- day consultation. These combined responses, including several from the consultant and client, were drafted and circulated a week later to all participants, including persons from agencies that unfortunately were

¹ A draft document was prepared in 2006 in partial fulfilment of a Masters degrees of an officer with responsibility for coastal zone management and was used as a base document to produce a revised version in 2008 under the Special Frame for Assistance (SFA) Project of 2003.

not represented at the workshop, but whose inputs were considered valuable to help clarify questions and concerns arising from the consultations.

To aid reviewers in their contributions, the reporting template (Table 1) covers the full range of strategic and regional visions, actions, expected results and frameworks. Areas on the table that remain “empty” were areas where no specific recommendations for revision are proposed. During the review process, the consultant recommended the following areas for special consideration:

- + The Policy, Legal and Institutional Arrangements
- + Management Frameworks
- + Biodiversity and Natural Resources (marine reserves, coral reefs, sand dunes, marine turtles, reef fish, endemic birds, mangroves / crabs, sea sand, IAS – sargassum, sea grasses)
- + Industry: Fisheries, Sea moss production, Agriculture, Tourism, Sand Mining, Aquaculture
- + Recreation: Beach Use, Zoning of recreational areas, Scuba, Snuba, Recreational Fishing
- + Mangrove Exploitation
- + Yachting
- + Solid and Liquid Waste Management
- + Community Development and Empowerment
- + Communications, Education

The final recommendations are presented in Table 1 below.

6. PROPOSED REVISIONS

The following are comments and proposed revisions to the draft CZMSAP arising from stakeholder, client and consultant reviews. All comments are presented in *italics* whilst the actual proposed revised texts are presented in ***italics bold***. Original texts presented in the CZMSAP draft are either in regular or bold print, depending on whether they appear as headers or regular text in the draft CZMSAP. As stated earlier, where no comment appears adjacent to a header, no comment / recommended change was received for this line item.

Finally, whilst there was a recommendation to alter the tense of the headings of the sections this has not been done except in the highlighted final sections, in order to allow for a comparison. Further discussion is recommended by the consultant in this regard prior to drafting the revisions.

Table 1: Summary of Proposed Revisions to the 2006 Draft CZMSAP, Saint Lucia.

General	Proposed revision / addition/ comment
From Strategy to Actions	
First Action: Achieve a holistic and integrated approach to management and development	
Task	<i>Remove “proposed “from National Land Policy, and Agriculture Policy.</i>
Second Action: Develop Pollution Control and Waste Management Mechanisms	
Task: 10 th bullet	<i>With regard to basic recycling: There should be a task to reflect that recycling on an island wide scale is difficult (often not cost effective) due to the small size, so rather, it is necessary to consider being selective as to imports and reducing importation of items that will accumulate as waste on the island.</i>
<i>Paragraph 3, page 24</i>	<i>– add at the end of the paragraph notably, “The continued pollution of these coastal waters has negative implications for nearshore fishery resources, river systems and ultimately, human health and the water based tourism sector”... “and other coastal ecosystems, such as mangroves and sea grass beds.”</i>
All Tasks	<i>Several of these must be updated, e.g., bullet 2 speaks to ratification of the LBS protocol. This was achieved in January 29, 2008 and became international law in 2010.</i>
Task: 8 th bullet	<i>There is reference to: Develop standards/guidelines for: (a) waste management for hotels (b) harbours, ports and marinas (c) for management, treatment, recycling and disposal of waste water. Have these standards been drafted to date?</i>
Third Action: Manage the use of coastal and marine resources and their associated habitats	
Rationale	<i>The resources along the coast need to be defined to include cultural, historical, aesthetic, scenic areas and sites.</i>
Task : 4 th bullet	<i>One of the development control mechanisms should be mandatory public beach access) and recreational space.</i>
Task	<i>Include this as an additional bullet: Support, encourage and where required, facilitate the publication of State of the Environment Reports</i>
Task	<i>Include this as an additional bullet: Review the policy for divestment of Queen's chain/ coastal areas to assess the long term economic returns and other benefits to the State. Identify areas that should not be divested.</i>
Fourth Action: Develop and/or Implement Appropriate Institutional Frameworks to Guide the Management and Development of Saint Lucia’s Coastal Zone	
Task: 1 st bullet	<i>“Formally mandate the role and function of the CZMAC” <i>Has this been completed??</i></i>
Task: 2 nd bullet	<i>Review existing CZM related legislation so as to make recommendations regarding whether there is a need to develop new ICZM specific legislation. Recommended attention be given to ...Ballast water legislation / Holding Tank guidelines / Marine pollution bill / Pump out facilities for marinas, existing and proposed / The requirements of EIA to be enforced.</i>

General	Proposed revision / addition/ comment
Fifth Action: Secure Sufficient Financial Resources for the Implementation of ICZM in Saint Lucia	
Task: 2 nd bullet	Design and implement a system whereby the collection of existing and new user fees, taxes, fines, levies and surcharges are channeled into components of the CZM programme. <i>This to be changed to reflect the establishment of the National Conservation Fund / Sustainable Financing</i>
Sixth Action: Collect and Manage Data to Guide Management Decisions	
Seventh Action: Empower the local population with regard to the significance of coastal and marine resources	
PART III- REGIONAL ACTION PLANS	
3.1 Northwest Coastal Region (Point Du Cap To Trou Rollard, Marigot)	
Regional Profile	This harbour, regarded as one of the busiest ports in the Eastern Caribbean averaged 16, 358 gross tonnage in 2004 (SLASPA, 2005) <i>We need to check on the accuracy of this figure.</i>
Issues and Constraints	
The Vision	
Regional Goals	“The rehabilitation and restoration of degraded coastal and marine resources”. <i>It is proposed that there should be a target which states: Monitoring of coastal resources and establishing and maintaining a zero net decline in the quality and diversity of these resources.</i>
Adoption of an integrative and holistic approach to guide future development in the Northwest Coast	
Rationale	Expansion of the residential and tourism sector, more specifically coastal tourism, is occurring very rapidly on the island, especially in light of the upcoming World Cup Cricket in 2007. <i>(delete as shown)</i> “There are currently no institutional frameworks in place that require setbacks” <i>This needs to be corrected. There are regulations pertaining to the Queen’s chain.</i>
Expected results	<i>All targets will require an update as they were planned to be accomplished within a 10 year timeframe.</i> “Identified and demarcated recreational areas and beach space, particularly within Rodney Bay and Pigeon Island.....” <i>This has not yet been formally addressed as there are still frequent conflicts between sea bathers and horse riders, sea bathers and seine fishers, and seine fishers and pleasure craft berthed off shore.</i>

General	Proposed revision / addition/ comment
Action Framework	<i>Principle responsibility and co-operants may need to change as the names of several Ministries have changed. It is suggested that reference to Ministries be as follows: MOT Ministry of Tourism is now Ministry of Tourism, Heritage and Creative Industry. It is recommended to change MOT to Ministry responsible for Tourism, ... MAFF is changed to Ministry of Agriculture, Food Production, Fisheries, Cooperatives and Rural Development. Replace MAFF with Ministries responsible for Agriculture and Fisheries ... Ministry of Communications and Works is changed to Ministry of Infrastructure Ports Services and Transportation. Replace with the Ministry responsible for Infrastructure and Communications.</i>
Implementation of adequate pollutant and waste management mechanisms to cater to the northwest coast	
Rationale	
Expected results	<i>All targets will require an update as they were scheduled to be completed within a 10 year timeframe.</i>
Action Framework <i>Same as comments above in previous Action Frameworks</i>	<i>Principle responsibility and co-operants may need to change as Ministries have changed as follows: MOT Ministry of Tourism is now Ministry of Tourism, Heritage and Creative Industry MAFF is changed to Ministry of Agriculture, Food Production, Fisheries and Rural Development Ministry of Communications and Works is changed to Ministry of Infrastructure Ports Services and Transportation</i>
Rehabilitation and restoration degraded coastal and marine resources	
Rationale	
Expected results	<i>All targets will require an update as they were planned to be accomplished within a 10 year timeframe. It should be noted that most of these results address beach management and most have not yet been undertaken. All these will need to remain but be given greater emphasis. Most can be extracted into a beach Management and Conservation Plan for specific funding.</i>
Action Framework <i>Same as comments above in previous Action Frameworks</i>	<i>Principle responsibility and co-operants may need to change as Ministries have changed as follows: MOT Ministry of Tourism is now Ministry of Tourism, Heritage and Creative Industry MAFF is changed to Ministry of Agriculture, Food Production, Fisheries and Rural Development Ministry of Communications and Works is changed to Ministry of Infrastructure Ports Services and Transportation</i>
Principal Responsibility	<i>Employ soft methods such as beach replenishment, dune restoration The responsible agency should be the CZMU, and possibly the NCA, supported by the Dept. Fisheries and facilitated by the Physical Planning Unit.</i>
Development and implementation of mechanisms to address and mitigate against natural and environmental disasters	
Rationale	
Expected results	<i>N-W coast evacuation plan is not yet in place. Other targets seem to be in process of development.</i>

General	Proposed revision / addition/ comment
Action Framework	
Implementation conflict resolution mechanisms to address the increasing conflict amongst resource users along the northwest coast.	
Rationale	
Expected results 1 st bullet	<i>Is there a North-West Coast Management Authority? Is this target still in progress? Is this still a target or has another decision replaced this one?</i>
Action Framework	<i>Same as comments above in previous Action Frameworks</i>
Empowerment and capacity building of the local community with regard to coastal zone issues	
Rationale	
Expected results	
Action Framework	<i>Same as comments above in previous Action Frameworks</i>
Proliferation of socio-economic benefits to local communities from the commercial and tourism sectors	
Rationale	
Expected results	
Action Framework	<i>Same as comments above in previous Action Frameworks</i>
3.2 Central West Coastal Region (Roseau Bay To Choiseul Village)	
Issues and Constraints	
The Vision	
Regional Goal	
Adoption of regulated and planned development that is in keeping with the environmental, historical and cultural significance of the region	
Rationale	
Expected results	
Action Framework <i>Same as comments above in previous Action Frameworks</i>	<i>Principle responsibility and co-operants may need to change as Ministries have changed as follows: MOT Ministry of Tourism is now Ministry of Tourism, Heritage and Creative Industry MAFF is changed to Ministry of Agriculture, Food Production, Fisheries and Rural Development Ministry of Communications and Works is changed to Ministry of Infrastructure Ports Services and Transportation</i>
	<i>Attention placed on risk and disaster management issues (World Bank/ PPCR/ DVRP initiatives)</i>
Establishment of appropriate pollution and waste control mechanisms	
Rationale	
Expected results	

General	Proposed revision / addition/ comment
Action Framework	<i>Same as comments above in previous Action Frameworks</i>
Development and implementation of mechanisms to address and mitigate against natural and environmental disasters	
Rationale	
Expected results	
Action Framework	Develop and implement central west coast disaster management and mitigation plan – <i>Information needs to be obtained to correctly update this section. This is a key output. What is the current status? Is this still in the pipelines?</i>
	A population that is sensitized towards the potential threats of natural and environmental disasters. <i>The following actions are proposed: Action - 1. Implement a participatory process for identifying vulnerabilities and impacts on communities. 2. Develop and implement a communications strategy.</i>
Rationale	
Expected results	
Action Framework	Consider the impacts of climate change and global warming on the population and habitats along the north east coast MPDEH. <i>Define specific actions; include other Ministries / agencies</i>
Adoption of an integrated watershed and coastal area management (IWCAM) approach to guide management of the central west coast	
Rationale	
Expected results	<i>Demarcate</i> all forest reserves and conservation areas within the central west Coast – <i>It is assumed that demarcation of sites will be done through the use of GPS points and not survey points. The question now is how useful is it to simply demarcate the forest reserves. Should there be an effort to prioritize the reserves and attempt some form of survey to establish survey pegs / monuments?</i>
	Identified and demarcated buffer zones along river banks along the central west coast. <i>This remains but it is noted that this is a big challenge. Is this achievable considering the extent of river bank erosion especially in this region?</i>
Action Framework <i>Same as comments above in previous Action Frameworks</i>	Rehabilitate degraded river systems by vegetating banks and recreating microhabitats within riverbeds – <i>WRMU or is this now WRMA? Will this not be better led by Dept. Forestry? It is recommended that the responsible agencies be identified as WRMA and the Dept. of Fisheries.</i>
	<i>Established</i> replanting programmes using native species to the region. <i>This was established and is ongoing.</i>
Management of the use of coastal and marine resources to ensure their conservation, sustainable use and restoration	
Rationale	
Expected results	Address deteriorating river and coastal water quality: <i>this is multi-sectoral and should have its own well defined action plan clearly identifying which agency will undertake which series of actions and against specified timelines. If not,</i>

General	Proposed revision / addition/ comment
	<i>conditions as they currently exist, will continue, as each agency waits on another to lead.</i>
	<i>Specific mention should be made of Invasive Alien Species. First, a general comment is required specifying the need to develop a protocol to address the arrival or confirmation of an IAS within the coastal area. All attempts should be made to prevent entry, but if this fails, clear responses to the threat must be established. Secondly, actions specifically addressing the Lion fish (<i>Pterois spp</i>) threat need to be included here.</i>
Action Framework	Mapping of marine and coastal resources within the central west coast- <i>Include the Dept. of Fisheries as a lead agency.</i> <i>Make similar changes as described in previous Action Frameworks</i>
Empowerment and capacity building of the local community with regard to coastal zone issues	
Rationale	
Expected results	
Action Framework	Establish community based and other management arrangements to facilitate effective resource conservation and sustainable use <i>Recommend Dept. Fisheries and SLNT replace CZMU as the lead agency.</i>
Proliferation of socio-economic benefits to local communities from the commercial and tourism sectors	
Rationale	
Expected results	
Action Framework	<i>Same as comments above in previous Action Frameworks</i>
Development and implementation of a framework that addresses the resolution and avoidance of conflicts related to the myriad of activities occurring along the central west coast	
Rationale	
Expected results	
Action Framework	Review and revise the institutional arrangements of the Canaries Anse la Raye Marine Management Area. <i>This was in the short term. Has this been completed? It is recommended that the text be updated accordingly.</i>
<i>Same as comments above in previous Action Frameworks</i>	Strengthen the technical and enforcement capacity of all regulatory agencies involved in coastal zone management in the central west coast region. - <i>An update on this section is recommended. Was also "short-term".</i>
3.3 Northeast Coastal Region (Point Du Cap To Mandele Point, Dennery)	
Issues and Constraints	
The Vision	
Regional Goal	
Adoption of regulated and planned development that is in keeping with the environmental significance of the region	
Rationale	
Expected results	

General	Proposed revision / addition/ comment
Action Framework <i>Same as comments above in previous Action Frameworks</i>	<i>Principle responsibility and co-operants may need to change as Ministries have changed as follows: MOT Ministry of Tourism is now Ministry of Tourism, Heritage and Creative Industry MAFF is changed to Ministry of Agriculture, Food Production, Fisheries and Rural Development Ministry of Communications and Works is changed to Ministry of Infrastructure Ports Services and Transportation</i>
Establishment of appropriate pollution and waste control mechanisms	
Rationale	
Expected results	
Action Framework <i>Same as comments above in previous Action Frameworks</i>	Develop standards for the placement and construction of septic tanks for residential developments that are not able to be serviced by a sewerage treatment plant – <i>An update should be made here on the progress of work (short –term)</i>
Development and implementation of mechanisms to address and mitigate against natural and environmental disasters	
Rationale	
Expected results	
Action Framework	Develop and implement north east coast disaster management and mitigation plan. <i>Need an update on this short-term target and include in the revised version of the document.</i>
Adoption of an integrated watershed and coastal area management (IWCAM) approach to guide management of the north east coast	
Rationale	
Expected results	
Action Framework	Consider the impacts of climate change and global warming on the population and habitats along the north east coast. <i>Define and include here specific actions; include other Ministries / agencies</i>
Management of the use of coastal and marine resources to ensure their conservation, sustainable use and restoration	
Rationale	
Expected results	<i>Include a target that addresses management and control of IAS</i>
	<i>Established</i> regular beach cleaning activities to address marine based pollution occurring along the north east coast.
Action Framework	
Empowerment and capacity building of the local community with regards to coastal zone issues <i>Empower and build capacity of the local community with regard to coastal zone issues Proposed adjustment of heading</i>	
Rationale	
Expected results	
Action Framework	
<i>Proliferate socio-economic benefits to local communities from the commercial</i>	

General	Proposed revision / addition/ comment
and tourism sectors: Proposed adjustment of heading	
Rationale	
Expected results	Linkages must be made between management of marine biodiversity sustainable livelihoods.
Action Framework	
Development and implementation of a framework that addresses the resolution and avoidance of conflicts related to the myriad of activities occurring along the central west coast Proposed adjustment of heading	
Rationale	
Expected results	
Action Framework	
3.4 Southwest And Southeast Coastal Region (Mandele Point To Piaye)	
Issues and Constraints	
The Vision	<i>Considering the importance of wetlands to the region (Ramsar Sites) and the high level of pollution entering the Pointe Sables bay, that these should be elaborated or incorporated in the vision.</i>
Regional Goal	
Adoption of an integrative and holistic approach towards land use planning	
Rationale	
Expected results	
Action Framework	
Establishment of appropriate pollution and waste control mechanisms Establish appropriate pollution and waste control mechanisms Proposed adjustment of heading	
Rationale	
Expected results	<i>Include the following: Create the enabling environment for waste disposal (e.g. similar to systems in developing countries) for recycling and sorting of wastes for proper disposal.</i>
Action Framework	<p>Improve solid waste management, beginning with communities located in close proximity to waterways: <i>Somewhere in the document, there should be indicators to assist in assessing the achievement of the Plan based on this target.</i></p> <p>Develop standards for the placement and construction of septic tanks for residential developments that are not able to connect to a sewerage line – <i>this was a short-term goal. What is the status of this target? This should be updated and included in the revised version of the report.</i></p>
Development and implementation of mechanisms to address and mitigate against natural and human-induced disasters Proposed adjustment of heading	
Rationale	
Expected results	
Action Framework	

General	Proposed revision / addition/ comment
Empowerment and capacity building of the local community with regards to coastal zone issues <i>Empower and build capacity of the local community with regard to coastal zone issues Proposed adjustment of heading</i>	
Rationale	<i>The socio-economic data needs to be updated (e.g. population etc.).</i>
Expected results	
Action Framework	
Proliferation of socio-economic benefits to local communities from the commercial and tourism sectors <i>Proposed adjustment of heading</i>	
Rationale	
Expected results	<i>Linkages must be made between management of marine biodiversity and sustainable livelihoods.</i>
Action Framework	

7. WETLAND AND MANGROVE CONSERVATION ACTION PLAN

This should be based on the following Guiding Principles and existing conditions which are presented in no specific order with regard to order of priority or relevance.

- ❖ Mangroves are important ecosystems that must be allowed to carry out their ecological functions.
- ❖ Mangroves in Saint Lucia are declared marine reserves.
- ❖ Regulations must be established to protect mangroves in Saint Lucia from degradation and or decline. Strict penalties must be established and enforced for breaking laws pertaining to mangrove conservation.
- ❖ Several mangrove forests are located on private lands. Regulations with respect to mangroves must supersede ownership. In other words, land owners must be required to abide by the laws related to mangroves.
- ❖ Land owners, on whose property mangroves are located, may take special steps to protect these forests and inform the relevant management agencies of their efforts. These land owners should be eligible for special compensation or benefits arising from their contributions to the conservation of the mangrove forests.
- ❖ Due to the extensive nature of mangroves islandwide, it is beyond the capacity of the State to effectively manage all mangroves. Community-based co-management agreements can be established in order to strengthen capacity of the State to manage mangroves. The State can encourage community involvement by facilitating acquisition of regional and international funds by local communities to assist them in contributing to the implementation of a Mangrove and Wetland State endorsed management strategy and plan.

- ❖ All wetlands are highly susceptible to pollution from inland sources; deforestation for charcoal production and or infrastructure development (housing, roads). These are known conditions that must not be overlooked in considering development proposals.
- ❖ All wetlands, even those that are not part of a mangrove system, must be managed and conserved, including those that are located on private lands. Private land owners that invest in wetland conservation should also be eligible for special benefits.
- ❖ Regular monitoring of mangroves and wetlands is necessary to help ensure that the ecosystems are effectively managed. This should be explicitly stated in any National Development Strategy.
- ❖ Regulations pertaining to mangroves need to be well publicized, including being placed on signs throughout all mangrove locations, to ensure thorough public knowledge and understanding.
- ❖ The State needs to promote and facilitate local, regional and international research within mangroves in order to monitor changes and identify the impact of different threats on ecological functions.

8. BEACH CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT

Towards the development of Beach Management Strategies and Actions

Beaches in the Caribbean are important, not only as interfaces between the land and the sea, but as important components of fishing and tourism sectors. Even more importantly, **beaches are the most popular sites for affordable, daytime recreation**, performing significant social functions. In order to maximize benefits, all beaches must be protected from pollution, erosion and other forms of ecosystem change, climate change impacts and over exploitation. There are spatial limitations that require management interventions to ensure that countries protect their beaches from excessive visitor use. Identification of the potential services that can be provided by different beaches on an island, and the threats that the sites are most likely to face, are important, if beach management strategies are to be adequately developed. It can be anticipated that even on a small island, management strategies will differ from beach to beach. Some beaches, due to their proximity to certain large hotels and recreation areas, to restaurants and residential areas, and their presence on the leeward side of the island, are popular for bathing and picnicking. Other beaches are better suited for kite surfing, kite boarding, wind surfing and para sailing. Many beaches are also the nesting sites for a wide variety of birds, reptiles and mammals. It is therefore not surprising that some beaches may be managed differently in response to their particular circumstance.

There are, however, some considerations that will be important for almost all beaches. Management must always address biodiversity conservation issues, economic development and social concerns. Pollution must always be controlled, critical biodiversity hotspots must be protected, resource access sharing between users such as fishers, farmers, aquaculturists,

recreational users, tourists, tour operators, bird & turtle watchers, coastal zone developers (for housing, hotels, marinas, fish landing sites) and natural resources managers, must always be a priority.

Some recommended strategies for consideration include:

- ❖ Defining “beach”.
- ❖ Closing all beaches to the public between 7 p.m. and 5 a.m. daily and stipulating that presence on the beach during these times are at one’s own risk.
- ❖ Identifying a suitable authority to manage beaches. This authority must function beyond simply cleaning the beaches, but must monitor all other aspects of a management regime.
- ❖ Establishing a series of beach regulations that are readily available to the public.
- ❖ Creating the position of “beach warden”, and deploying wardens to patrol all beaches, giving varying emphasis per beach.
- ❖ Placing signage on the majority of the beaches, informing the public of beach regulations.
- ❖ Charging fees for the use of beaches for public events, whether or not they are for profit.
- ❖ Establishing and enforcing strict fines for littering of beaches.
- ❖ Establishing detailed conditions for the placement of temporary structures on the beach.
- ❖ Regulating the presence of animals on beaches. Absolutely no horses and or farm animals. All dogs must be leashed. Deposition of dog feaces is considered littering and owners of the dog can be fined.
- ❖ Horse rides may be permitted at specified times on specified beaches. Absolutely no racing of horses on beaches.
- ❖ Declaring all beaches closed to vehicular traffic, including motor bikes, scooters, ATVs.
- ❖ Defining appropriate “dress” for the beach. Will nudity be permitted anywhere, anytime?
- ❖ Establishing severe penalties for sand mining and penalties for the purchase of “non – permitted” sand.
- ❖ Declaring all beaches on the island the property of the People of Saint Lucia and not available for sale.
- ❖ Regulating the use of lights on the beach, especially during the marine turtle nesting season.

9. SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS

This report will be submitted to the client as per the terms of the contract. It is expected that the responsible officers at the Sustainable Development and Environment Division (coastal zone and climate change) will provide the necessary guidance towards the development of an all-encompassing CZMSAP to incorporate beaches, mangroves and marine protected areas. The final action plan should clearly define and prioritize short and long term targets that are direct outcomes from this consultation report.

ANNEX

Workshop Agenda

Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA)

Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project

Stakeholder Consultation on Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Saint Lucia

An Initiative of the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Energy, Science and Technology, in collaboration with the European Union (EU) and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)

Objective of Meeting: (i) revision of the Coastal Zone Management Strategy and Action Plan for Saint Lucia; (ii) The development of a National Policy for Wetlands Conservation and Management; and (iii) Strategies for Beach Management in Saint Lucia.

Day 1

8:30 Registration

9:00 Welcome and Opening of Meeting

9:20 Brief Introductions and Review of Agenda

9:40 Coastal Zone Issues and Concerns Part 1 [issues and solution cards by participants]

9:50 Coastal Zone Issues Part 2 [ML Felix, Consultant]

10:10 Plenary

10:30 Break

10:50 Saint Lucia's Coastal Zone Strategy and Action Plan (CZMSAP)

11:10 Q & A

11:30 CZMSAP Review: Part 1

12:30 Lunch

1:30 CZMSAP Review: Part 2 [Group Exchanges]

2:00 Plenary: Recommended revisions to Strategic and Regional Actions (10- 15 minutes)

3:15 Break

3:35 Plenary: Review of Recommendations

4:30 Close of Meeting

Day 2

8:30 Registration

9:00 Welcome, Introductions and Summary of Key Issues and Recommendations from Day 1

9:30 Approval of Agenda

9:45 Status of Saint Lucia's Mangroves [Dept. Forestry, Photo Presentation]

10:00 Status of Saint Lucia's Beaches [Towards a Beach Management Plan by MLF]

10:15 Plenary

10:40 Break

11:00 Group discussions [Defining key policy, legislative, socio-economic elements necessary for: 1. Mangrove and Wetland Management Strategy and Actions / 2. Beach Management Strategy and Actions]

11:45 Group Presentations / 10 minute

12:30 Plenary

1:00 Close of Meeting / Next steps

1:15 Lunch

Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA)

Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project

Stakeholder Consultation on Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Saint Lucia

Attendance Register²

	Name	Organisation	Number	Email Address
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² The draft report was circulated to all relevant stakeholders for feedback and endorsement, including those that were not able to attend.

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