



Managing Trinidad and Tobago’s Environmentally Sensitive Areas: First assessment of management effectiveness in Aripo Savannas, Matura National Park and Nariva Swamp

Type of priority area

Marine Protected Area

Terrestrial Protected Area

Primary objective

Management Effectiveness

Target groups

Local Communities

Main activity focus

Management plan - Participation

Awareness/Education

Duration
03.15.2022 – 08.14.2022

Type of grant & budget
Small Technical Grant | 18.506,25€

Location
Trinidad and Tobago, Caribbean

Protected & Conserved Areas
Aripo Savannas Strict Nature Reserve- Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) (ASESA), Matura National Park ESA (MNPESA) and Nariva Swamp Managed Resource Protected Area ESA (NSESA)

WDPA ID
146647, 146636, 146640, 68241

BIOPAMA RRIS Link
<https://rris.biopama.org/pa/146647>
<https://rris.biopama.org/pa/146636>
<https://rris.biopama.org/pa/146640>
<https://rris.biopama.org/pa/68241>

Project Lead
Environmental Management Authority

Project Partners
N/A

Description of the project :
The project will engage consultants who, for each protected area, will:

- Conduct a METT-4 assessment, through stakeholder engagement exercises and a desktop analysis of available data;
- Develop an action plan, based on the results/recommendations of the METT-4 assessment, which outlines the results of the METT-4 assessment, recommends updated priority actions for the management plan and describes the process for implementing the priority actions;
- Develop a communications plan to share the results of the METT-4 assessment locally and globally.





Diagnostic Tools Used

- Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool, Version 4 (METT-4)



The BIOPAMA Action Component Objectives Addressed

To identify or update result-oriented priority actions for improved protected and conserved areas 'management and governance, through new or updated quantified management and governance assessments and their associated enhancement plans.



Priority Need Addressed

This is the first time an assessment tool has been applied within target protected areas. The complexity and interconnectedness of threats to the Environmentally Sensitive Areas make effective management challenging. The Management Advisory Committees for the protected areas have determined that more informed and data driven management approaches are needed. The assessment will enhance the effectiveness of management through data collection and analysis to identify gaps and elucidate possible opportunities for the achievement of management objectives. Additionally, this assessment which is suitable for replication, will form a baseline so that in future, progress in achieving management objectives can be assessed from a temporal perspective.

The assessment is needed in order to:

- acquire baseline data for each area;
- facilitate the prioritisation of conservation objectives and priority actions; and
- allow the voluntary stakeholder Management Advisory Committees to more effectively manage the protected areas.



The change the project implementation will bring for the protected areas

The project's implementation will facilitate the establishment of a framework for a quantitative assessment of the status of the three (3) Environmentally Sensitive Areas, with the aim of improving their management. Outputs from the METT-4 assessments will focus different state bodies and other stakeholders on priority management actions and help develop opportunities for inter-agency cooperation to achieve management goals.

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BIOPAMA assists the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries to address their priorities for improved management and governance of biodiversity and natural resources. BIOPAMA provides a variety of tools, services and funding to conservation actors in the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. The BIOPAMA grant-making facility is managed by IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) and supports projects on the ground to strengthen the management and governance of protected and conserved areas, with a total budget of 21 million Euros.

