



# Valuing the Caribbean environment: policy processes linked with SEEA

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# Latin American and Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development (ILAC)

ILAC AREA	RAP PRIORITIES
Climate change	The linkages between climate change and all ILAC areas are recognized (including renewable energy and energy efficiency)
Biodiversity	Increase of the forest area
	Genetic resources—equitable sharing of benefits
Water Management	Watershed management
	Management of marine and coastal areas and their resources
Vulnerability, human settlements and sustainable cities	Vulnerability and risk management
	Waste management
Social issues, including health, inequity and poverty	Health and environment (pollution and chemicals)
Economic issues, including competitiveness, trade and production and consumption patterns (energy)	Sustainable Production and Consumption
Institutional arrangements	Evaluation and indicators
	Environmental education

# Green economy and SCP in the Caribbean: shared challenges and opportunities

- Green economy and sustainable consumption and production (SCP) offer complementary approaches for an action-oriented agenda of sustainable development.
- They address, respectively, macro- and micro-economic dimensions of public policy and regulation, business operations and consumption choices.
- National programmes led by countries based on their demand – with support from UNEP as well as partners such as UNIDO, UNITAR and ILO—**Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE)**
- Programmes address common challenges in the Caribbean—vulnerability to climate change and extreme weather events, limited economic diversification and vulnerability to external price shocks.





# Green Economy Scoping Study for Barbados (2012)



## Barbados

### The potential for greening various sectors

- 8 Agriculture
- 12 Fisheries
- 16 Building/Housing
- 22 Transport
- 26 Tourism

Opportunities, challenges and investment gaps

Specific measures for greening of sectors and potential economic, social and environmental returns

Strong participatory stakeholder engagement





## Advancing Caribbean States' Sustainable Development through Green Economy (ACSSD-GE) (2012-2014)

- This project is supporting three pilot countries (Haiti, Jamaica and Saint Lucia), which were selected by COTED an open application process.
- Simultaneously, the project engages with other countries in the Caribbean region and provides macroeconomic and sector specific green economy capacity building support through regional events (e.g., Caribbean Green Economy Conference 2013)



# Sustainable consumption and production in the Caribbean

- LAC was the first region to develop a **SCP Regional Strategy**, with the following priorities (endorsed by the Forum of Environment Ministers):
  - National SCP action plans
  - Sustainable public procurement
  - Small and Medium Enterprises
  - Education and sustainable lifestyles
- **Regional Council of Experts on SCP**
- **Sustainable public procurement and ecolabelling** (combined approach to improve performance of products through lifecycle)
- **Sustainable tourism** and Green Passport Campaign: Bahamas, OECS, Caribbean Tourism Organization
- Resource efficient and cleaner production in **SMEs**: UNEP/UNIDO National Cleaner Production Centres, eco-innovation tools, waste minimization and waste-to-energy

# ProEcoServ Trinidad and Tobago: Objectives

1. Introduce GIS-based ecosystem service maps and an associated Decision Support System into Spatial Development Planning in T&T
  - National Spatial Development Plan
  - National Hillside Policy
2. Introduce Experimental Ecosystem Services Accounting into the T&T National Accounts
3. Develop a pilot Eco-finance scheme (e.g. Payment for Ecosystem Services)
  - T&T Green Fund

Reference: “Environmentally adjusted National Accounts for Trinidad and Tobago’s sustainable future”, Alexander Girvan and Sonja S. Teelucksingh

# Valuation in ProEcoServ

- ProEcoServ uses valuation of ecosystem services to;
  - Speak the language of Policymakers/population
  - Convert the wealth of biophysical knowledge on forest into economic values
  - Draw attention to the flows in the economy which impact ecosystem health
- \$497 Million<sup>1</sup> - Value of key ecosystem services<sup>2</sup> provided by northern range forest per year
- 2.4% of GDP for one ecosystem = strong case for SEEA to track and monitor these critical flows
- Also a TEEB (The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity) study in Saint Lucia – coraf reefs and marine protected areas, rainforest, fisheries and shoreline protection, focusing on the tourism sector



# Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)

- Goal to “strengthen the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystems services for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term human well-being and sustainable development”.
- Four functions: knowledge generation, assessment, policy support, capacity building
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Plenary (December 2013) adopted Programme of Work 2014-2018, including:
  - Regional and subregional assessments
  - Assessment of tools and methodologies regarding multiple values of biodiversity to human societies.

# Subregional and regional entities



Organization of American States



**COMUNIDAD ANDINA**

Bolivia • Colombia • Ecuador • Perú



# Latin America and the Caribbean (regional)



## Community of Latin America and Caribbean States (CELAC)

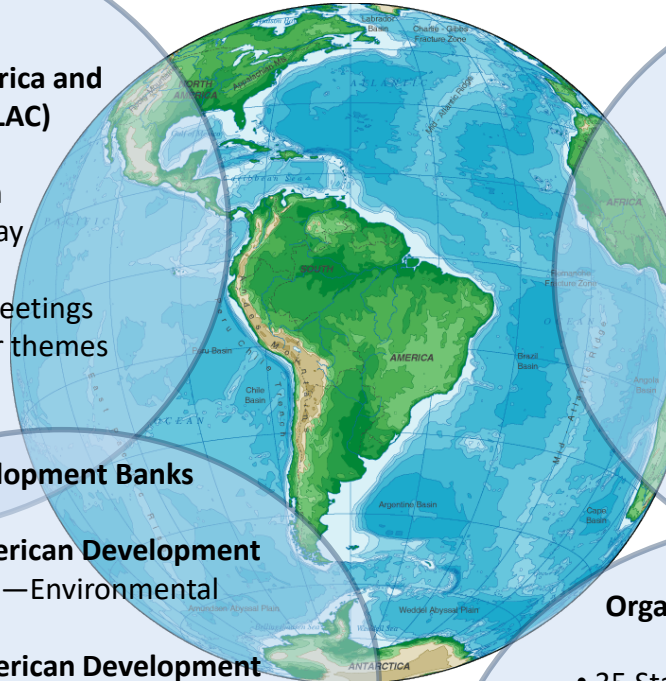
- All 33 countries in region
- Incorporates Montego Bay Action Plan
- Specialized ministerial meetings on environment and other themes



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## Development Banks

- **Latin American Development Bank (CAF)**—Environmental Strategy
- **Inter-American Development Bank**—Sustainability Report and annual lending target on climate change, renewable energy and environmental sustainability



## ALBA Group

- Eight countries from Latin America and Caribbean
- Joint Declaration of 2004 (12 principles and priorities)
- Joint statements on environment and climate change issues
- Committee for Nature Protection
- Grannational projects



## Organization of American States (OAS)

- 35 States of Americas, 67 other observers
- Declaration and Plan of Action on Sustainable Development of Americas
- Inter-American Meetings of Ministers and High-level Authorities on Sustainable Development



# Caribbean policies, priorities, strategies

## Association of Caribbean States (ACS)

- 25 member States in wider Caribbean region
- Priorities include sustainable tourism, disaster risk reduction, preservation and conservation of the Caribbean Sea—**Caribbean Sea Commission**

## Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)

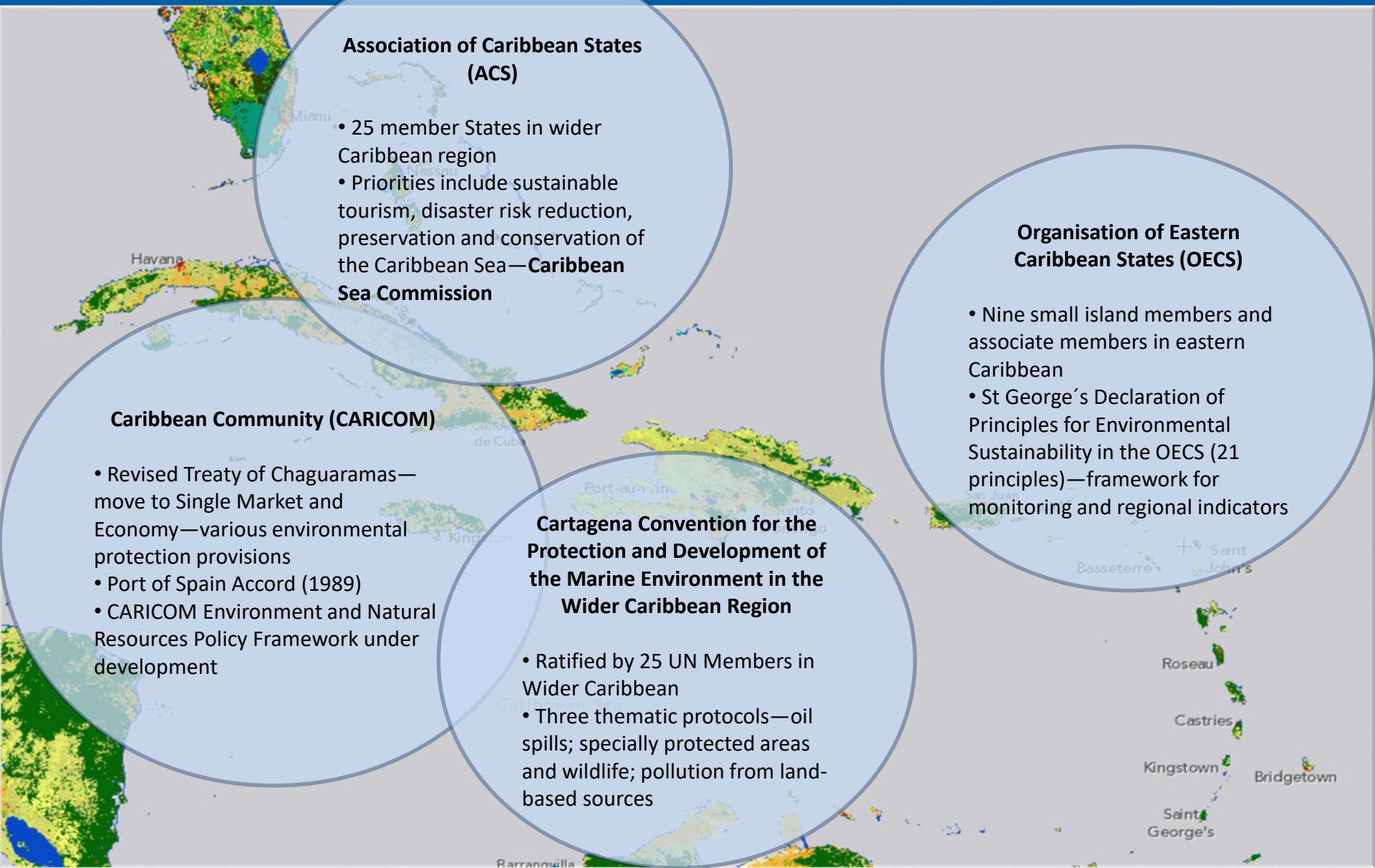
- Nine small island members and associate members in eastern Caribbean
- St George's Declaration of Principles for Environmental Sustainability in the OECS (21 principles)—framework for monitoring and regional indicators

## Caribbean Community (CARICOM)

- Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas—move to Single Market and Economy—various environmental protection provisions
- Port of Spain Accord (1989)
- CARICOM Environment and Natural Resources Policy Framework under development

## Cartagena Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment in the Wider Caribbean Region

- Ratified by 25 UN Members in Wider Caribbean
- Three thematic protocols—oil spills; specially protected areas and wildlife; pollution from land-based sources



# Priorities of nearly every organization/subregion in Latin America and the Caribbean



**Climate change**

**Biodiversity, natural resources, ecosystems,  
protected areas**



**Water resource management**



**Thank you!**