



**TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY
CLEARING HOUSE NODE**

CURRENT SITUATION

○ Institutional Structures

- CHM National Focal Point – Permanent Secretary, Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources
- Environmental Policy and Planning Division/Multi-Lateral Environmental Agreements Unit.



INSTITUTIONS WITH BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION

○ **State Agencies**

- Environmental Management Authority
- Institute of Marine Affairs
- Tobago House of Assembly – Department of Natural Resources and the Environment
- Fisheries Division
- Forestry Division
- Commissioner of State Lands
- Horticultural Services Division



INSTITUTIONS WITH BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION

- **Non Governmental Organizations**
 - Zoological Society
 - Horticultural Society
 - Orchid Society
 - Caribbean Forest Conservation Association
 - Cropper Foundation
- **Academic Institutions**
 - University of the West Indies
 - National Herbarium
- **Foreign Institutions**
- **Private Collections**



BIODIVERSITY CLEARING HOUSE NATIONAL NODE

- Biodiversity MEA Focal Point Network

<http://eppd-tt.blogspot.com/p/mea-focal-points.html>

- Trinidad and Tobago Biodiversity Clearing Website

<http://www.biodiversity.gov.tt/home/>



CHALLENGES

- Unwillingness of institutions to share biodiversity information
- Repatriation of biodiversity information stored in foreign institutions
- Digitizing of Records
- Lack of data and information in key areas
- Training and capacity building required for resource managers to use new technologies
- IT Security Protocols with the Government Backbone



FUTURE PLANS

- Awareness Strategy on the Benefits of the National Biodiversity Information Network
- Technical Assistance from the Mexican Government - CONABIO (National Commission for Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity)
http://www.conabio.gob.mx/web/conocenos/quienes_somos_ingles.html
http://www.biodiversidad.gob.mx/v_ingles/index.html
<http://www.conabio.gob.mx/biotica5/index.php>



THANK YOU

