

Information on National CHM

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

(Updated on 2013-09-20 by Ms. Yasa Belmar)

National CHM	
Web address (URL)	
Title	
Brief description	
Responsible organization	Environmental Management Department, Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment
Webmaster name	Information Technology Service Department (?)
Webmaster email	egovunit @ gov.vc
Content management system (CMS)	WordPress (Proposed)
Database system	
Search engine	
Available human resources for maintenance and development	ITSD and Health Information System Unit Staff
Other comments	

Other national websites on biodiversity		
Web address (URL) & title	Brief description	Responsible organization

Major national organizations involved in biodiversity		
Acronym	Full name	Role
MoAIFRT	Ministry of Agriculture, Industry, Forestry, Fisheries and Rural Transformation	<p>The Forestry Department manages forest biodiversity and ecosystems in a sustainable and productive manner. It is also responsible for granting research permits to foreign scientists/ researchers; and is in charge of ex situ conservation of endemic species such as the Amazona Guildingi Parrot</p> <p>The Fisheries Division is responsible for marine and coastal biodiversity assessments and for sustainable management of fisheries</p> <p>The Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for Agricultural Biodiversity (including biotechnology)</p>
NPRBA	National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority	<p>Responsible for declaration and management of protected areas in SVG.</p> <p>The Botanic Gardens is the responsibility of the NPRBA.</p>
MoHWE	Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment	Focal point for the UNCBD and responsible for coordinating the implementation of the NBSAP and national reporting.
NT	The National Trust	NGO committed to the preservation and protection of the natural, archaeological, architectural, and cultural history of St Vincent & the Grenadines

Comments on national situation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ SVG does not currently have a national clearing house mechanism. (A CHM Focal point has not yet nominated). ▶ The 4th National Report identified the creation of a CHM as a priority for improving implementation of the Convention. ▶ The development of a CHM is a component of our NBSAP Revision and 5th National Report Umbrella Project.

Strategic Vision
<p>To develop a fully-functional Clearing House Mechanism which would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Make biodiversity information and knowledge available to both governmental and non-governmental stakeholders and the general public , ▶ enable them to track the implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (including activities undertaken by various stakeholder agencies), and ▶ track progress towards the achievement of the National Targets

Roadmap				
Priority	Objective	Activities	Responsible	Requirements
1	To assign responsibility for development and maintenance of the CHM.	Lobby for the nomination of a CHM Focal Point	Permanent Secretary, MoHWE	DR
1	To identify Partner Institutions who would provide information for the CHM and who would be key users.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify key organizations and individuals with biodiversity information and knowledge in SVG Identify Institutional Focal Points Engage IFPs in planning to determine needs of key users and information providers 	Permanent Secretaries/ Heads of relevant Institutions	OK
1	To prepare a business plan and terms of reference for the CHM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare a sustainability plan for the CHM Establish inter-institutional coordination mechanism Identify Web Master, Content Manager and Information Providers 	CBD Focal Point, CHM Focal Point, Institutional Focal Points	CR
2	To get tools & support to establish web presence (website development, hosting, CMS, Content Strategy)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create CHM Website 	MOHWE –CHM Focal Point	OK

Roadmap				
Priority	Objective	Activities	Responsible	Requirements
1	To gather and make accessible all existing relevant information on the terrestrial biota and physical resources of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and to converge all tabular and spatial data into a single data system that can analyze and portray biological data. (This includes legacy (historical) hard copy reports, but all materials should be scanned/digitized where ever possible so that they may be combined into an on-line reference for all. These items will include: scientific journal articles, images, maps, air photos and remotely sensed imagery, species lists, narratives and other materials relevant to the terrestrial natural resources of St. Vincent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage library services to provide a listing of all known published and "gray" literature that is relevant to biodiversity, species lists, and physical resources, e.g., geology, hydrology, climate, etc. Request the most knowledgeable SVG and university biology contacts to review list to add additional references, if possible. Get all references digitized and entered onto the web site, ensure it is indexed with keywords, organized by subject or otherwise searchable. 	MOHWE (Project Manager)	ARR

Roadmap				
Priority	Objective	Activities	Responsible	Requirements
3	To publicize locally/regionally that the new web site is available and accepting other relevant materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilize Social Media, Radio and Television advertisements, interviews and newspaper articles to publicize the CHM Website Launch the CHM Website on International Day for Biodiversity Develop a communication plan for the website. (Develop a content management plan through brainstorming/consultation with stakeholders – species of the month update schedule, fun facts, photography competitions etc) 	MOHWE (Project Manager)	CR

Notes:

- Priority: 1=urgent, 2=high, 3=medium, 4=low; 5=very low
- Objective: challenge, issue, problem to resolve
- Responsible: organization or person in charge
- Requirements: Code + text
 - OK: Can be done with existing resources
 - DR: Decision required
 - CR: Collaboration required
 - ARR: Additional resources required (support, cooperation)

Comments on roadmap

Cooperation opportunities / Type of support needed

- ▶ Support in the development of an appropriate database for the organisation of SVG biodiversity information would be needed.
- ▶ Assistance with the repatriation of information held in foreign institutions would be of utmost priority. Much research has been done in SVG but very little of that information is available for use in biodiversity management in the country. Expert services in information retrieval and management would be helpful.
- ▶ Once the CHM website is operational, collaboration would be needed with Regional Organisations such as the OECS Secretariat and CARICOM, as well as International Organisations such as the SCBD to help promote the website and to solicit review of the information by leading scientists and researchers who might have more information to contribute. It is envisaged that the site would promote an interest in further research into SVG's biodiversity.

Thank you!