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17 January 2020

NOTIFICATION

Subregional Exchange for the Caribbean on the Restoration of Forests and Other Ecosystems

Castries, Saint Lucia – 9 to 13 March 2020

Dear Madam/Sir,

I have the pleasure to announce that the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is organizing, in collaboration with the Government of Saint Lucia, a sub-regional exchange workshop for the Caribbean on the restoration of forests and other ecosystems to support the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, to be held from 9 to 13 March 2020 in Castries, Saint Lucia. The workshop will be conducted in English. Workshop documents will be posted on the CBD website at <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/> and at www.feri-biodiversity.org/ in due course.

This workshop is one of a series being organized through the implementation of the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative (FERI) by the CBD Secretariat thanks to the generous financial assistance of the Korea Forest Service of the Government of the Republic of Korea. The FERI was welcomed by the Conference of the Parties to the CBD at its twelfth meeting in paragraph 5 of decision XII/19. At its thirteenth meeting, in decision XIII/5, the COP welcomed progress in the implementation of the FERI and adopted a short-term action plan on ecosystem restoration. In decision XIII/5, the COP also requested the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to support the efforts of Parties in making use of the short-term action plan on ecosystem restoration by enabling capacity-building and supporting the use of tools in collaboration with relevant partners and initiatives, including by implementing the FERI in collaboration with FAO.

The overall aim of the workshop is to support Parties in developing and implementing national plans on the restoration of forests and other ecosystems in the context of the short-term action plan on ecosystem restoration. Participating countries will be invited to examine their national targets, plans and objectives, and to review the status of degraded forests and other ecosystems with a view to prioritizing areas for ecosystem restoration. An ambition for ecosystem restoration in the Caribbean, including a focus on forests, would be estimated from the national targets.

Parties are invited to nominate one representative to participate in this workshop. The Secretariat will be in a position to finance the participation of one representative from each Party eligible for funding. Nominations must include an official letter addressed to the Acting Executive Secretary, signed by the National Focal Point, indicating the name and full contact details of the nominee. Nominations should be submitted as soon as possible and by **31 January 2020** online at www.feri-biodiversity.org/registration and with copy to secretariat@cbd.int. Please note that the nominated experts must ensure that their passport is valid for a period of six months after travel.

To: CBD National Focal Points from Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago



Parties are requested to use the following criteria when determining their nominations. The nominee should:

(a) Have a level of responsibility for making decisions on land use/spatial planning such as for biodiversity, forest ecosystems, and ecosystem restoration;

(b) Be able to complete a pre-workshop survey on national plans and status of the restoration of forests and landscapes;

(c) Be in a position to promote actions to achieve national commitments on the restoration of forests and landscapes; and

(d) Be in a position to translate the knowledge gained into concrete cross-sectoral actions to enhance policy and planning coherence on the restoration of forests and landscapes.

I thank you for your cooperation and continued support for the work of the Convention.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Elizabeth Maruma Mrema
Acting Executive Secretary