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Sectoral Integration in Saint Lucia

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1. Introduction

Saint Lucia reported[1] that Saint Lucia's biological resources continue to play a significant role in the country's socioeconomic development, especially in the key sectors of tourism, agriculture and fisheries, and are intimately tied to the health of its environment. Despite the distinctive shift from a predominantly agrarian-based economy, which by very nature is exploitative, to a service-based economy, there is still a heavy reliance on the island's natural resources for tourism. Biological resources have also become increasingly important in light of the growing trends in eco-tourism.

Rural communities still depend heavily on sustainable livelihoods, which are underpinned by the use of biological resources such as timber, latanyé for broom making, mauby, charcoal, fish for community fiestas, etc. The major shift in sector dominance has brought with it new and emerging challenges and opportunities, as well as new threats to the biological resources of the country.

It is against this backdrop that the country recognizes the imperative of continuing to seek the integration of biodiversity concerns into national, sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies and plans, as called for in Article 6 of the Convention, General Measures for Conservation and Sustainable Use:

(a) Develop national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity or adapt for this purpose existing strategies, plans or programmes

(b) Integrate, as far as possible and as appropriate, the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.

Clearly, achieving the objectives of the Convention, and in particular the 2010 target and goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan, will be impossible without engaging the main sectors and key actors that have impacts on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

2. Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Sectoral and Cross-Sectoral Strategies and Plans

With respect to article 6b, since the adoption of the NBSAP in 2000, biodiversity concerns have progressively been integrated into the agenda of the various departments in the key sector, agriculture, principally, the departments of agriculture, forestry and fisheries. Several other government departments and other national and local levels of government have also embraced biodiversity within their agendas. The extent to which these issues have been integrated into the national agenda is exemplified by the current policy, legislative and institutional framework.

The framework for a new enabling environment, though evolving as many of the outputs from the EU SFA 2003 programme completed in 2008 are still to be implemented, speaks to addressing biodiversity management under an overarching environmental management framework. The National

[1] Saint Lucia (2009). Saint Lucia's Fourth National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity, 132 pp.

Environmental Commission (NEC) launched in 2008, is to perform an integral role in facilitating inter-agency collaboration and coordination, and a Department of the Environment is proposed through which an Integrated Development Planning (IDP) approach could be pursued, thus giving consideration to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use within sector specific and thematic / cross cutting areas.

Further, Saint Lucia is a contracting party to fourteen (14) regional and international multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) relating directly to the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources. All these agreements provide an opportunity for unified commitment of government departments and other institutions and agencies to deal with common environmental issues. Similarity in agendas has thus fuelled the need to seek integration of biodiversity issues into many strategies and plans. The extent to which these issues have been integrated into the national agenda is manifested in the many national, sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, strategies, and action plans, which cover biodiversity issues as outlined in Table 1:

Table 1. Extent of Integration of Biodiversity Issues into National Agenda

Policies and Strategies	Programmes and Plans	Biodiversity and Business
• Millennium Development Goals • NEP/NEMS • Climate Change Adaptation Policy • National Water Policy • National Land Policy • Saint Lucia Forest Sector Policy (draft) • Agricultural Sector Policy and Strategy • Saint Lucia Heritage Tourism Programme (SLHTP) Charter	• National Vision Plan • Systems Plan of Protected Areas (SPPA) - OPAAL project • Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Strategy and Action Plan • UNCCD National Action Plan (NAP) • Integrated Water and Coastal Zone Management (IWCAM) • Sustainable Energy Policy & Action Plan • Renewable energy in MALFF • Disaster Management Plans • Sustainable Land Management Project	• Environmental Management Systems - Green globe certification - Fair Trade, GAPs, LEAP - ISO 14000 • Sustainable Tourism Protocol under the ACS

Worthy of note, is that the country has had a cultural ethos of conservation established since the 1970's, due to the diligent pioneering work of persons such as the late Gabriel "Coco" Charles who spearheaded within the Department of Forestry the legendary "Jacquot campaign" for the conservation of the St. Lucia Parrot, which had been deemed to be nearing extinction. Fisheries management as well, under the then Chief Fisheries Office, Horace Walters, also promoted a conservation thrust.

Hence, as early as the 1980's concerted efforts were made, even in the absence of adequate funding, to establish designated marine reserves. In the area on in-situ and ex-situ conservation of agricultural biodiversity, the Department of Agriculture in the MALFF also made some strides, albeit with its focus being on improving its production base.

The inherent appreciation for conservation mentioned earlier has also, for the most part, influenced many of the initiatives, programmes and plans in the attainment of the mandates of the various agencies, government departments and community organizations (Box 1). Hence, many of their programmes and plans are generally de facto in support of biodiversity conservation, and though

seeming to be coincidental, have in fact realised the integration of biodiversity conservation into their strategies and plans.

This type of "incidental" mainstreaming is exemplified in the manner in which projects in the NBSAP were developed and implemented. The very process of selection of the suite of projects was a demonstration of the diverse range of sectors and other interests whose mandates all embodied biodiversity conservation to some extent, with projects developed across the various sectors.

However, the issue of co-ordination among agencies though slightly improved, has not been to the extent required for effective biodiversity management. Actions to support implementation of policies are not always forthcoming or implemented at a slow pace.

Box 1. Biodiversity issues have been tangibly integrated into the sectoral agenda through:
· The NEP/NEMS - Obj. # 7 of the NEP is to fulfill regional and international responsibilities., 5 of 7 objectives biodiversity related
· National Vision Plan
· Systems Plan for Protected Areas (revised under OPAAL Project, (still to be endorsed) by Cabinet of Ministers
· Agricultural Sector Policy (includes biodiversity conservation)
· National Forest Demarcation and Bio-Physical Resource Inventory Project (2009)
· Coastal Habitat Mapping Project (2009
· National Forest Policy (draft) and Forestry Management Plan (1992 – 2002) – under revision
· Revised Fisheries Act and Regulations
· International Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora Act
· Marine Pollution Act
· National Land Policy
· National Water Policy
· Coastal Zone Management in Saint Lucia: Policy, Guidelines and Selected Projects April, 2004; CZM Strategy and Action Plan (2008)
· Medium Term Development Strategy
· Heritage Tourism Program (Charter)
· Several Protected areas have been established and include Forests, Coral Reefs and Beaches and Nature reserves, the Soufriere Marine Management Area (SMMA), Pitons Management Area, Canaries /Anse La Raye Marine Management Area (CAMMA). 26 Marine reserves have been established including Savannes and Mankote Mangroves that are also Saint Lucia's Ramsar sites.
· Additionally protection is afforded to the World Heritage Site located within the Pitons Management Area.
· Planning Legislation (EIAs)
· Millennium Development Goals for the country
· Folk Research Centre documentation with regard to food and cultural festivals

Table 2 provides a summary of the role of other government departments, levels of government (from national to local) and other stakeholders that develop and implement strategies, plans and programmes having significant impacts on biodiversity.

Table 2. Primary Stakeholders and Roles in CBD

STAKEHOLDER /AGENCY	MANDATE /PROGRAMME AREAS	ROLE IN THE CBD
Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Forestry and Fisheries	Forestry, fisheries, agriculture and other natural resource management Nature conservation Designation of Protected Areas (Forestry) Germplasm	Focal Point to CBD, the SBSTTA; GPSC and Protected Areas Focal Point Policy (e.g. National Forest Policy; Agriculture Sector Policy and Strategy; Trade in Endangered Species (wild flora and fauna) Policy – CITES, Agricultural Health, Food Safety and Standards Plan ;)

	conservation Research	Biosafety Framework Control of invasive alien species and the protection of plant and animal life Resource monitoring and management
Sustainable Development and Environment Section of the MPDE&H	Environment, Energy, Science and Technology, Integrated Development Planning (IDP)	Policy (NEP-NEMS, draft Land Policy, CZM, National Climate Change Policy and Adaptation Strategy); Advocacy, IDP process commenced but never completed; State of Environment Report Proposals for 5 year National Development Plan - Vision Plan (2007) "Framework for Environmental Management" proposed espousing IDP and ISM.- 2008 - Recommendation for Department of Environment - Environmental Management Act drafted and several policies and strategies updated - National Environmental Commission (NEC) endorsed by Cabinet of Ministers in December 2007; launched 2008
Physical Development of the MPDE&H	Development Control	Requirements for EIAs; Designation of Protected Areas
Ministry of Finance	Economic Affairs	Budgetary allocations (need for better understanding of issues and application of economic valuation of natural resources)
Ministry of Education	Education	Facilitation of school based public awareness and sensitization programs
Ministry of Legal Affairs	Legislative Drafting	Biodiversity and Biosafety legislation
Ministry of Health	Food safety and human health	Biosafety framework & legislation
Ministry of Tourism, SLTB, SLHTA	Develop and maintain a high quality tourism product	Policy (Tourism Strategy and Action Plan) Heritage and Adventure Tourism programmes; Agro-Tourism Initiative.
Ministry of Social Transformation	Implementation social agenda – MDG's, Johannesburg Plan of Action; poverty alleviation	Ensure environmental sustainability – Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes.
National Emergency Management Office (NEMO)	Disaster Management	Disaster Management Act; Hazard Mitigation Policy and Plans
SLNT/ OECS Protected Areas and Associated Livelihoods (OPAAL) PROJECT	Protected Areas	Review of Systems Plan for Protected areas; Capacity Building for Protected Areas Planning and Management and Associated Livelihoods
SMMA	Resource Management	Monitoring (Marine protected area) and resource management
IWCAM	Resource Management	Monitoring and capacity building
NTN /GIS	Information Services	Facilitate dissemination of biodiversity information
Community Based Organisations (Gros Piton Trail, Aldet Centre, Charcoal Producers, Praslin Development Committee, Des Barras Sea Turtle Watch Group)	Sustainable livelihoods; Advocacy on a variety of issues	Biodiversity management as part of sustainable livelihoods; Involvement in M&E as well as information dissemination, public awareness and sensitisation; Biological data collection and monitoring

3. Processes for Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Sectoral and Cross-Sectoral Strategies and Plans

The process towards the formulation of this 4th National Report identified several processes by which biodiversity concerns were integrated into sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies and plans, inter alia:

 Legislative Mandate

 Functional collaboration

 Integrated development planning

 Inter-sectoral committees

 Networking

4. Legislative Mandate

Biodiversity conservation is enshrined within the various legislations governing the work of the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Forestry and Fisheries. The Ministry operates within the following programme areas:

 Agriculture

 Forest Resource Development

 Fisheries Development

 Corporate Planning and Statistics

 Marketing Is also has a Water Resources Agency (WRA) established with funding from the European Union (EU) under its Special Framework of Assistance (SFA) portfolio. The MALFF was identified as having the best facility for biodiversity work in Saint Lucia.

Given this definitive mandate, the work programmes of these departments inherently addressed biodiversity issues, and were the de facto measures and arrangements for ensuring implementation of the NBSAP and the CBD. Achievements in terms of how these measures and arrangements impacted on biodiversity or contributed to the objectives of the Convention are illustrated as follows.

The Forestry Department undertakes the following sub-programmes and is guided by its Forestry Management Plan (recently updated), National Forest Policy and under the Forest Demarcation Project (2008) the new Forest Act (Draft), and Forest (Timber and Non Timber Products) Regulations:

 Forest management

 Nature conservation

 Germplasm conservation

 Forest research

The achievements of the Department related to the CBD have been quite significant and are well expounded throughout the report with a summary provided in Box 2.

Box 2. CBD related Achievements of Department of Forestry
 Focal Point to the SBSTTA, COP, GPSC and Protected Areas Focal Point
 Programmes and initiatives for conservation and sustainable use – Saint Lucia Parrot, Latanyé, etc.
 Research and monitoring programmes and studies on biological diversity at the genetic and ecosystem levels.

 Cooperation in the breeding loan agreement program with the Jersey Zoo in the Channel Islands to ensure preservation of the Amazona versicolor (Saint Lucia Parrot).
 Relationship with Christopher Smith, a breeder and researcher of the Fer-de-lance snake.
 National Herbarium Achievements

The Department of Fisheries served as the first coordinator of the biodiversity project in Saint Lucia. This Department boasts a very accomplished Research Unit set up to undertake relevant studies to manage the living marine resources and promote sustainable utilization of fish stocks.

Box 3 summarises some of the CBD related achievements of the Department.

Box 3. CBD related Achievements of Department of Fisheries
Activities undertaken by Fisheries Department include protected marine area establishment; lobster, conch, sea turtle, sea urchin and coastal zone management; cetaceans, mangrove, coral reef, and beach monitoring; sea-moss cultivation; freshwater fish and shrimp culture; management of aquaculture ponds; data management and ongoing public education; establishment and oversight of the SMMA.

As indicated previously the MAFF serves as Focal Point to the Convention. The former Director of Agricultural Service served in a full-time capacity (though the full-time aspect was shortened) as a Biodiversity Project Coordinator and continued to function in that capacity. The Department of Agriculture through its Research and Development Division and its Agricultural Extension Services Division has made some strides in the area of in-situ and ex-situ conservation. CBDrelated achievements of the Department are indicated in Box 4.

Box 4. CBD-related Achievements of Department of Agriculture
 Focal Point to CBD directly under the Permanent Secretary
 Sustainable Use Focal Point
 Project on production of agro biodiversity education materials
 Establishment of Biodiversity Unit and Biodiversity/Biosafety Project Coordinator
 Monitoring of introduced species that threaten crop and animal production as in the case of the fruit fly (Anastrepha obliqua), Giant African Snail (Achatina fullica), etc.
 Enforcement plant and animal health and quarantine legislation; as well as for other invasive species covered under legislation in specific areas such as apiculture, coastal and marine environments, forests, protected areas and wildlife.
 Germplasm conservation:
o ex situ germplasm collection of root crops, tree crops, forest trees and medicinal plants
o in-situ preservation of a number of species of yam and other food crops
 Information Management - Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) and Biodiversity Information Network (BIN)
 Ongoing public education

5. Functional Collaboration

While no measurable targets were set in the 2001 NBSAP, its implementation however benefited from strong sectoral management agencies that work closely together. A formal mechanism for coordination among various departments concerned with biodiversity issues is yet to be established to date. However, departments such as Fisheries and Forestry as a matter of practice and also as a means of ensuring that those objectives with overlapping components of their work programme are achieved, collaborate with various other departments, agencies, and community groups.

Early initiatives such as that of the MALFF in establishing a Conventions and Protocols Committee in order to realise synergies and ensure follow-up on the multiplicity of international agreements is commendable. However, this has not been sustained and greater commitment, time and human resources are still required by departments and focal points to facilitate the functioning of such a committee. Difficulties of juggling time, assignments out of state and various meetings make meetings of the committee very challenging. The MALFF management committee, established at the ministerial level to undertake monthly programme monitoring provides another option with regards to a mechanism for integration at the sectoral level.

6. Integrated Development Planning

The country has been pursuing an approach of integrated development planning (IDP), which seeks to promote an inter-sectoral approach to planning and development, in order to minimise potential conflicts, particularly as it relates to the use of resources. IDP has been proposed for a number of years but there have been a number of administrative delays in its implementation.

However, even in its limited application, the utilization of the IDP approach gives consideration to the mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use within sector specific and thematic / cross cutting areas.

The IDP framework has further evolved into a framework for Environmental Management which espouses IDP and Island Systems Management (ISM). It is envisaged that the process of mainstreaming biodiversity issues sectorally and inter-sectorally will be further deepened as the proposed environmental management framework has as a more realistic target in the establishment of a Department of the Environment. The National Environmental Commission (NEC) as a multi-sectoral body is intended to perform an integral role in facilitating inter-agency collaboration and coordination. An Environmental Management Act has been drafted and several policies and strategies for environmental and natural resources management have been updated as well.

The Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project (being funded by UNDP) also addresses the issue of mainstreaming.

7. Inter-Sectoral Committees

Currently, there are several inter-sectoral committees (Box 5) established for oversight of the various conventions and agreements, especially multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), with many of the same persons members of these committees. While this may seem to pose a challenge for the available human resources, there is the distinct advantage of promoting synergy in implementation of the MEAs, as well as other biodiversity related conventions (CITES, WHC, Ramsar, CMS, ITPGRFA, SPAW), building upon the work of the CBD related Committees. Joint expert groups and meetings of intergovernmental bodies on selected issues of mutual concern further complement this type of inter-secretariat cooperation.

Box 5. Range of Inter-Sectoral Committees
· OPAAL Technical Advisory Committee

· SMMA
· UNFCC/Climate Change
· Adhoc Committee UNCCD
· CZMAC
· Sustainable Land Management
· National Biodiversity Committee
· National Biosafety Coordinating Committee
· Biosafety Clearing House Task Force
· Wildfire Management Committee

The recently adopted UNCCD- National Action Plan (NAP) is one example of a mechanism for seeking opportunity within the implementation of the Plan to ensure synergy with the implementation of the CBD's plan. The success in the Soufriere Marine Management Area (SMMA) further demonstrates the real potential for success of harmonized action within an intersectoral grouping (Box 16).

8. Networking

Strong networking among agencies allowed for synergies to be realized in implementation of the NBSAP. A case in point is the Department of Forestry, which has used a collaborative approach and has established networks with regional and international government and non-governmental agencies and institutions to overcome the many constraints and challenges in implementing biodiversity conservation measures, including more technical assistance in the areas of research and monitoring and training in conservation strategies (Box 6).

Box 6. Examples of Success of Department of Forestry in Partnering with Agencies
· Collaboration with Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust for:
 Research and Development of Parrot Management Guidelines
 DNA testing to ensure sustainability of the St. Lucia whiptail lizard.
Results:
 New methodologies established for estimation of Amazona versicolor populations, and for increasing genetic diversity of the St. Lucia Whiptail populations
 Amazona versicolor - species down-listed from critically endangered to vulnerable
· Conservation with Pride Campaign on Iguana with collaboration of RARE
· Relationship with Christopher Smith, a breeder and researcher of the Fer de Lance snake
· National Forest Demarcation and Bio-Physical Resource Inventory Project (2009) -
Preliminary findings available on:
(i) Identification, description and mapping of forest types and Biodiversity inventory (including species presence and distribution);
(ii) Identification of priority species and forest areas requiring special attention
(iii) Assessment of use of wildlife

The Department also continues to promote a co-management approach to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, one such example being the Mankoté Mangrove for charcoal production.

The Department of Fisheries likewise has formed some important collaborative networks with regional and international agencies such as WIDECAST, CFRN and ICRAN.

9. The use of any positive incentives and removal of perverse incentives

Various economic and social incentives have been developed and introduced which support mainstreaming of biodiversity issues in key economic sectors. However, many of these incentives are of a voluntary nature and do not always demonstrate a direct economic benefit.

The Agricultural Incentives Regime developed by the MALFF, promotes mainstreaming at all levels (national, sector and community) through the provision of concessions to farmers and farmers groups for the adoption of environmental management measures. Mainstreaming at the community level is also promoted through other agricultural related incentives programmes such as Fair Trade, Global GAP and LEAP.

Incentives to promote mainstreaming of biodiversity issues in the tourism sector and industry include the use of global environment awards such as Green Globe and ISO 14001 – Environmental Management Systems (EMS).

A National Biodiversity Awards Ceremony developed by the MALFF and sponsored by the private sector (Bank of Saint Lucia), targets schools, communities, individuals, private sector and the media thus promoting biodiversity integration at all levels.

However, there are no incentive packages offered to technical personnel on the whole; and, quite often the remuneration, when compared with persons of similar qualification in other sectors, is not very attractive.

10. Ecosystem approach Adopted and Employed

The NBSAP implementation process recognized that there are some inter-sectoral issues, which cannot be fully addressed within the implementation framework of the CBD. Consequently, a means of mainstreaming biodiversity into sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies, plans and programmes in order to address in a more comprehensive way the issues of scale, with particular respect to risks and threats was needed. It must be noted that the regard given to the ecosystem approach under the 1st NBSAP was somewhat incidental and was largely because the desired framework for addressing the aforementioned issues was consistent with the framework that it provided for decision-making at various levels, including national policy-making and site-level management.

In so far as the concept of Integrated Development Planning (IDP) was considered a potential framework for integrating biodiversity it, to all intents and purposes, proved to be a vehicle for promoting the ecosystem approach. Though the implementation of the IDP met with many challenges, the concept was generally embraced and in a few instances attempts were made to infuse IDP into the implementation of some NBSAP activities. The primary focus then was the involvement of all actors, at all levels, and combining this with community awareness and participation to pursue conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. So too, are the pursuit of the sustainable livelihoods approach and the sustainable land management approach which are considered complementary and mutually supporting to the ecosystem approach.

Hence, though the ecosystem approach was not explicitly adopted or employed, some of the activities undertaken towards implementation of the NBSAP and the Convention illustrate some measure of mainstreaming similar to the application of the ecosystem approach; with particular respect to the principle of integration. Indeed many of the measures adopted under the existing framework have served to reduce or halt erosion of species and genetic diversity within ecosystems. Further, to the extent that the application of the ecosystem approach should contribute to sustainable development and to attaining the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), then since these measures contributed to the attainment of the same, it can be reasoned that the approaches implemented were similar to the application of the ecosystems approach.

Examples of the application of such approaches include the Soufriere Marine Management Area (SMMA), St Lucia Heritage Tourism Programme and the Sustainable Land Management Project.

Cognisant that the ecosystem approach is the primary framework for the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the revision of the 1st NBSAP acknowledged a deficiency in this regard, and incorporates the adoption of an ecosystem approach as a key element of the 2nd NBSAP. However, there is need for an enabling environment to support an ecosystem approach. Box 7, outlines initiatives that assist in creating an enabling environment to support an ecosystem approach including:

• Policy reform

• Research and other scientific information required for establishing baseline data, assessing threats to ecosystem, species and genetic diversity, and for developing measures to minimise or mitigate threats.

Most of the initiatives mentioned including the policies and strategies require institutional arrangements (e.g. Units, Agencies or Committees) for implementation. Challenges include resource limitations, irresolute agency commitments, desultory political support, and lack of formal coordinating mechanisms and institutional arrangements.

Box 7. Initiatives to assist in creating enabling environment
 Environmental Management Framework (2008)
- National Environmental Commission (NEC)
- Policy and Legislation for Environmental Management in Saint Lucia
- Department of Environment
- Implementation of NEP/NEMS
 Protocol for Research in Science and Technology (including biodiversity in Saint Lucia)
- Outlines needs and opportunities for biodiversity research and monitoring
- Presents recommendations for development of an overall protocol for science and technology in Saint Lucia
 GEO – Saint Lucia 2006 – State of the Environment Report
- Provides information on status and trends of marine and coastal, forest and freshwater systems
- Identifies major impacts and key issues relevant to the environment and in particular these systems.

11. Biodiversity in Environmental Impact Assessments and Strategic Environmental Assessments

Strategic environmental assessments (SEAs) are not done within the current framework The Environmental Impact Assessment process, as described in Section 2, involves the participation of government departments (natural resource agencies and environment section) as referral agencies and public participation is also encouraged.

Biodiversity issues are therefore addressed in EIAs through the relevant recommendations made by the natural resource agencies; for example Department of Forestry's recommendations regarding forest and wildlife conservation, Department of agriculture's recommendations regarding agro-biodiversity protection and conservation, etc.

12. Summary of Outcomes achieved through Implementation of Measures for Mainstreaming

Outcomes achieved through implementation of these measures with regard to the extent to which these measures contribute to the implementation of NBSAPs include:

· Biodiversity objectives (conservation, sustainable use, benefit-sharing) partly mainstreamed into national development planning at all levels:

o Biodiversity linkages strengthened with initiatives aimed at environmental management, cultural, social and economic development

o Wildfire management plan endorsed by Cabinet as part of Disaster management plan for country

o Finance ministry encouraged to develop new innovative financing mechanisms for biodiversity conservation with biodiversity related agencies

· Community participation and involvement in biodiversity management maximized

· Development of Risk Mitigation Strategies

· Observed changes in biodiversity status and trends for example:

o SMMA: increase in fish stocks

o Forestry: conservation of latanyé and mauby species, down-listing of Saint Lucia Parrot

o Forests conserved on some private lands used for ecotourism

o More traditional crops planted by farmers and householders o Alien invasive species now includes environmental invasives

The St Lucia Heritage Tourism Programme (SLHTP) is one success story, which illustrates the application of the various processes used in mainstreaming and integrating biodiversity into national, sectoral and cross-sectoral programmes and plans, in that:

· Approach employed was similar to ecosystems approach:

- All relevant actors were brought together;

- Biodiversity objectives of conservation, sustainable use and access & benefit sharing were mainstreamed through the establishment of an Authority;

· Tangible results achieved:

- common property natural resources used as assets to the benefit of people and communities,

- communities having a better appreciation of biodiversity and now claiming ownership, and no doubt contributing to the halting of the erosion of species and genetic diversity.