

DRAFT – TSCC Reporting Template (2025-2026)

Purpose and general instructions for completing the report:

As per the operational modalities in decision 16/3, the TSCCs are requested to submit their biennial activity reports to the global coordination entity who will report to the COP through the Subsidiary Body on Implementation. For this reporting cycle, SBI will review progress made by the TSCCs to identify possible gaps and solutions for improving the delivery of technical and scientific cooperation for consideration by the COP at its seventeenth meeting.

Please do not exceed 10-12 pages.

- An indicative word count is specified in each section.
- Upload the final draft of the report in a Word file onto the TSCC space on SharePoint. In case of a technical issue, please send the report to mea-cbd-technicalcooperation@un.org.

Part I. Background on the TSCC

Instructions: Please provide a succinct introduction to the report. Relevant introductions from the workplans can be used here, but please ensure to also include the following elements:

- Official launch date
- Parties served by the TSCC
- Key results of needs assessment and areas of focus

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Introduction

The **CARICOM Technical and Scientific Cooperation Centre (TSCC)** is a regional mechanism established to support Caribbean countries in implementing the **Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF)** of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Created pursuant to **CBD COP Decision 15/8** and hosted by the **CARICOM Secretariat**, the TSCC responds to long-standing gaps in regional coordination, capacity, knowledge sharing, and access to technical and scientific resources for biodiversity action. It is designed as a **demand-driven, “one-stop” support hub** that facilitates cooperation, partnerships, innovation, and implementation across the Caribbean.

The TSCC was **officially launched in March 2026**, alongside the inaugural meeting of the **CARICOM TSCC Partners Network**, held in Georgetown, Guyana. This milestone marked the operationalization of the Centre and the validation of its governance arrangements, partnership framework, and draft five-year workplan (2026–2030) and indicative budget.

The TSCC serves **CARICOM Member States that are Parties to the CBD**, namely Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago. It also engages CARICOM regional technical institutions, national biodiversity focal points, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs), academia, development partners, and the private sector, reflecting a whole-of-society approach.

A regional needs assessment and stakeholder consultations highlighted key challenges affecting effective KM-GBF implementation, including fragmented technical cooperation, weak data and knowledge management systems, limited human and institutional capacity, inadequate access to finance and technology, and insufficient inclusion of IPLCs, women, and youth. The assessment emphasized the need to shift from short-term projects toward sustained, programmatic regional support focused on implementation.

In response, the TSCC’s core areas of focus include accelerating:

- Updates and alignment of NBSAPs with the KM=GBF,
- Strengthening biodiversity governance frameworks at national and regional levels
- Capacity-building across governments and civil society, including long-term training
- Building regional research agendas and joint research programmes
- Structured partnerships with Caribbean universities
- **Support for key action areas identified in the regional capacity assessment: invasive alien species (GBF Target 6), DSI and ABS (GBF Target 13), Marine and coastal ecosystem restoration (GBF Targets 1, 2, 3 & 10), Technology-assisted monitoring (GBF Targets 15, 17), Data management and digital infrastructure (GBF Targets 20, 21)**

Through these functions, the TSCC aims to accelerate biodiversity action, strengthen regional resilience, and support sustainable development across the Caribbean.

Part II. Report on outcomes

Instructions:

- Please list the actual outcome(s) included in the workplan of the TSCC under each area of work.
- In the first column, list the output(s) included in the workplan and provide further information in the corresponding “Details” column. For example, you may provide a brief explanation of why an output has not been completed yet.
- Add as many rows as necessary in each table.
- Attach relevant supporting documentation in annex.

1. Operationalization of the TSCC

Outcome 1: Insert outcome 1 of workplan (Ex.: The TSCC achieves operational milestones and is established as a functional support centre.)

Outputs	Status	Details
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<p>System of effective management in place for the TSCC</p> <p>Activity 1.1.1 - Establish the CARICOM Network of Institutions</p> <p>Activity 1.1.3 – Establish and convene full CARICOM TSCC Coordination Group</p>	<p>In progress</p>	<p>Host agreement reviewed and legal with feedback provided and submission for signature to follow.</p> <p>Regional institutions identified and Ministerial endorsement received at the 124th Special Meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) on Environment and Sustainable Development.</p> <p>First in-person meeting of the CARICOM Partners Network (committee) held 23-25 March 2026. Draft ToR defining roles, responsibilities and meeting arrangements presented to Partners network, feedback received and updated version submitted to PN for review. Validation meeting (virtual) scheduled for 27 May 2026.</p> <p>The CARICOM Partners Network consists of the following members:</p> <p>Current Composition Voting Members from Parties (14) and Sector Representatives (10): Member States: Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.</p> <p>CARICOM Institutions: Caribbean Agricultural and Research Development Institute (CARDI), Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM), Caribbean Agriculture Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA), CARICOM Private Sector Organisation (CPSO)¹ Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre², OECS Commission³, University of the West Indies, University of Guyana.</p> <p>Other Regional Organisations: One representative each from Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities and the CARICOM Youth Ambassadors Programme.</p>
<p>Output 1.2 – System of effective planning in place</p> <p>Activity 1.2.1 – Conduct assessment for identifying options and enhancing capacity development and implementation of post 2020 GBF in the context of knowledge management, technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer</p> <p>Activity 1.2.2 – Develop 5-year workplan (inclusive of staffing needs, resource mobilization, and engagement strategies for the CARICOM Secretariat to serve as the incubator for the TSCC</p> <p>Activity 1.2.3 - Compilation of pilot activities in consultation with the CARICOM Network of Institutions</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>In 2024, the CARICOM Hub of the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Multilateral Environmental Agreements (ACP MEAs) programme Phase III conducted an assessment, through a consultative process with Biodiversity Focal Points and Regional Institutions on their preparedness to support the outcomes and decisions of COP 15 related to technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer. This included a rapid assessment of capacity and institutional needs for strengthening technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer in the region and identifying pilot activities based on the needs of the Region. The final outcomes of the assessment and recommendations ultimately provided options to support preparedness and participate in the to-be-established “network of regional, and/or subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres”.</p> <p>In preparation for its planned role as a TSC Centre, the CARICOM Secretariat, under the ACP-MEAs III Project, carried out a series of</p>

¹ Invitation letter to join the Partners Network sent. Response to invitations from CPSO pending

² Invitation letter to join the Partners Network sent. Response to invitations from 5Cs pending

³ Invitation letter to join the Partners Network sent. Response to invitations from OECS Commission pending

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		<p>consultations in 2025 with the CARICOM Network of Institutions, other organisations identified as potential partners and selected regional TSC organisations hosting sub regional TSC centres, biodiversity focal points, civil society organisations including women and youth. This phase of consultations involved effectively engaging stakeholders to design a project to ensure the scalability and long-term sustainability of activities and initiatives spearheaded by the relevant institutions that will participate in the yet to be established TSC Network in the Caribbean region. The consultancy undertaken included: the development of a five-year Plan (including staffing needs, resource mobilisation and engagement strategies) for the CARICOM Secretariat to serve as the incubator for the TSC and the development of a proposal including a budget and compilation of pilot activities for the TSC and practical measures on the full operationalisation of the TSC. The assessment was completed in May 2025.</p>
<p>Output 2.1 – TSCC Communications strategy and monitoring framework in place</p> <p>Activity 2.1.2 – Develop communications strategy and stakeholder management plan</p> <p>Activity 2.1.5 - Conduct regional webinars of Caribbean specific biodiversity research, including scientific and traditional knowledge and models, case studies and lessons learnt to disseminate good practices and knowledge exchange including IPLCs.</p>	<p>In progress</p>	<p>Draft Communications Strategy presented at the first meeting of the CARICOM Partners Network in March. Feedback was provided and draft currently being reviewed and updated.</p> <p>Virtual training session scheduled for 21 & 22 May on the Fundamentals of the KM-GBF Target 2 – Ecosystem Restoration in CARICOM.</p>
<p>Output 3.1 – System of effective Resource Mobilisation in place</p> <p>Activity 3.1.1 – Develop & Design Donor Engagement and Resource Mobilization Strategy identify potential sources of support for the operations and programs of the TSCC</p>	<p>In progress</p>	<p>A draft donor engagement and resource mobilization strategy for the TSC support activities identifying potential sources to support the operations and programme for the TSC was developed under the Consultancy phase in 2025. The draft was presented to the Partners Network at the first meeting in March. The draft is currently being reviewed based on feedback received. Additional activities for output 3.1 was included based on the feedback to the resource mobilization strategy.</p> <p>150 words</p>
<p>Additional result(s)</p>		<p>Include results other than the outputs mentioned in the workplan, if any</p> <p>150 words</p>

What has worked well, ongoing challenges and possible solutions

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Please use this space to share what has worked well and what has not under this area of work, as well as possible solutions to ongoing challenges.

The TSCC area of work has benefitted from a **clear regional mandate, strong stakeholder buy-in, and a shared long-term vision** aligned with global biodiversity commitments. The establishment of a structured five-year workplan and a draft governance framework has helped align Member States and partners around common priorities, while high levels of engagement from governments, regional institutions, civil society, academia, and Indigenous Peoples demonstrate strong regional ownership. Importantly, the Caribbean already possesses significant technical expertise and practical experience, allowing the TSCC to build on existing initiatives rather than create parallel systems.

However, several **persistent challenges continue to limit effectiveness**. Biodiversity efforts remain fragmented, with weak coordination and limited visibility across initiatives. Data and knowledge management systems are underdeveloped, constraining evidence-based decision-making, monitoring, and reporting. There is also a notable gap between planning and implementation, driven by short-term, project-based approaches, limited technical capacity, slow processes, and insufficient access to sustainable financing. Inclusive engagement of civil society and Indigenous Peoples, while acknowledged in principle, is not yet fully institutionalised.

Strengthening Resource Mobilisation and Financing capacity is critical and require creating a joint regional project pipeline, support is needed for building internal skills on navigating major funding mechanisms and blended finance. Recommendations from the Partners Network includes engagement with private sector and non-traditional donors early and coordinated proposal development involving governments and academia.

To address these challenges, the TSCC must shift from concept to **operational coordination**, strengthening its role as a regional hub for partnership-building, knowledge sharing, and programme development. Priorities include establishing a regional biodiversity clearing house, adopting programmatic and multi-country approaches, strengthening joint resource mobilisation and innovative financing, and embedding inclusive governance structures that meaningfully involve Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities.

500 words

2. Visibility and responsiveness

Outcome X: Insert outcome from workplan (Ex.: The TSCC is recognized as a visible and responsive support centre for technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer for the region/subregion.)

Outputs	Status	Details
Output from workplan <i>Ex.: Help desk/One-stop service centre established</i>	Not started	Electronic helpdesk scheduled for development by Dec 2026. 150 words
Output from workplan <i>Ex.: Communications strategy and products developed</i>	In progress	Draft Communications Strategy developed and presented to Partners Network. Currently being reviewed and updated based on feedback. Several communications materials including Partners videos were developed during the inaugural meeting of the TSC. These will be used to create communications materials to increase visibility of the TSC. 150 words
Output(s) from workplan (as needed)	Select an option	Brief explanation 150 words
Additional result(s)	Include results other than the outputs mentioned in the workplan, if any	

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150 words

What has worked well, ongoing challenges and possible solutions

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Strengthening communication and visibility will also be essential to position the TSCC as the central mechanism for advancing coordinated biodiversity action across CARICOM.

The TSCC has benefitted from **strong initial engagement activities**, particularly regional meetings and consultations that brought together Member States, regional institutions, youth, and Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities. A third day of the inaugural meeting was for presentations from regional organisations including (IUCN, FAO, CI, OECS) on alignment of initiatives to the TSC. These interactions helped build awareness of the TSCC concept, generated interest in collaboration, and clarified its intended role as a regional coordinating mechanism. Where communication was interactive and participatory, it proved effective in fostering buy-in and demonstrating the value of the TSCC as a convening platform.

To address challenges, the TSCC will prioritise the development and implementation of a **dedicated communications and visibility strategy** that clearly defines its value proposition, target audiences, key messages, and channels. This will include consistent branding, regular information products (briefs, updates, success stories), and strategic use of both digital and traditional media at national and regional levels. Strengthening internal coordination around communications, aligning messaging with CARICOM institutions, and amplifying tangible results and partnerships will be essential to positioning the TSCC as the recognised regional hub for biodiversity coordination and support.

Regular meetings of the TSCs of the Americas help to coordinate and conceptualise plans for a side event for COP17 and engagement with negotiators from GRULAC.

500 words

3. Partnership development and resource mobilization

Outcome X: Insert outcome from workplan (Ex.: The TSCC initiates partnership development and begins the process of identifying and developing sustainable, long-term resource mobilization.)

Outputs	Status	Details
Output from workplan Ex.: Partnerships developed	In progress	<p>The inaugural meeting of the CARICOM Partners Network meeting helped surface complementary expertise and fostered new collaborative relationships, with several actors expressing interest in co-implementation, knowledge sharing, and joint resource mobilisation. These partnerships have reinforced the TSCC's positioning as a coordination and facilitation platform, while highlighting its potential to connect existing initiatives and scale impact through collective regional action.</p> <p>The ToR developed for the Partners Network provides clear guidelines for the role of the Members and Observers.</p> <p><i>150 words</i></p>
Output from workplan Ex.: Project proposals submitted	Select an option	<p>Brief explanation</p> <p><i>150 words</i></p>

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Output from workplan Ex.: Resources mobilized	Select an option	Brief explanation, including, as appropriate, amount and nature of resources mobilized. <i>150 words</i>
Output(s) from workplan (as needed)	Select an option	Brief explanation <i>150 words</i>
Additional result(s)	Include results other than the outputs mentioned in the workplan, if any <i>150 words</i>	

What has worked well, ongoing challenges and possible solutions

Please use this space to share what has worked well and what has not under this area of work, as well as possible solutions to ongoing challenges.

Partnerships developed under the TSCC to date have been one of its key strengths, with broad engagement across Member States, regional institutions, international partners, academia, youth, and Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities. The Partners Network meeting helped surface complementary expertise and fostered new collaborative relationships, with several actors expressing interest in co-implementation, knowledge sharing, and joint resource mobilisation. These partnerships have reinforced the TSCC’s positioning as a coordination and facilitation platform, while highlighting its potential to connect existing initiatives and scale impact through collective regional action.

Some key challenges discussed in relation to partnerships included fragmentation and weak coordination, with many organisations working in parallel rather than collaboratively, leading to duplication and missed opportunities for synergy. The CARICOM Partners Network developed a ToR which provides clear roles and expectations among partners, which will help build trust, accountability, and follow-through on joint actions. Lack of financing to have in-person meetings was seen as a constraint that can reduce communications and level of feedback needed. Establishment of technical committees within the Partners Network were agreed. To support implementation of activities and will comprise members and ex-officio members as well as other regional organisations invited as observers and experts to provide specialized technical advice, support the development and implementation of activities and report to the Partners Network. The CARICOM TSCC will through the initiative of the Network explore and implement mechanisms to engage sub regional and global TSCCs through communication platforms, meetings, events.

500 words

4. Technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer

Outcome X: Insert outcome from workplan (Ex.: The TSCC promotes and facilitates technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer to support the implementation of the KMGB within the region/subregion and across the TSCC network.)

Outputs	Status	Details
Output from workplan Ex.: New knowledge management products developed under the TSCC	Not started	Brief explanation <i>150 words</i>
Output from workplan Ex.: New technical and scientific cooperation and/or technology transfer programs and/or projects implemented	Not started	Brief explanation <i>150 words</i>

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Output from workplan Ex.: Capacity-building and development events organized/facilitated	Select an option	Brief explanation, including, as appropriate, number of people with increased capacity. <i>150 words</i>
Output(s) from workplan (as needed)	Select an option	Brief explanation <i>150 words</i>
Additional result(s)	Include results other than the outputs mentioned in the workplan, if any <i>150 words</i>	

What has worked well, ongoing challenges and possible solutions

Please use this space to share what has worked well and what has not under this area of work, as well as possible solutions to ongoing challenges.

500 words

5. Additional information (optional)

Instructions: Please provide a succinct summary of any additional information that you would like to share that is not captured in the previous sections. Additional details and examples may be submitted via annex(es).

500 words

Part III. Summary of key achievements and challenges

Instructions:

- Based on the information reported above, use this space to highlight the top 2-3 accomplishments and the top 2-3 challenges faced by your TSCC during the biennium and suggest a way forward where possible.
- Include, where relevant, suggestions on how the GCE can assist in supporting the TSCCs to address challenges.
- Use both qualitative and quantitative metrics when possible.

1. Key achievements during the 2025-2026 biennium

Achievement 1: Output 1.2 (System of effective planning in place)

The CARICOM TSCC has achieved significant foundational progress by establishing a clear regional mandate and shared vision to support coordinated biodiversity action across Member States. It has been positioned as a demand-driven, facilitative mechanism aligned with global commitments such as the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, while remaining responsive to Caribbean priorities. The development of a structured multi-year workplan and draft governance arrangements has provided clarity on scope, roles, and strategic direction, laying the groundwork for sustained regional cooperation.

A major achievement has been the successful convening of diverse stakeholders through regional consultations and the inaugural meeting of the Partners Network, bringing together governments, regional institutions including academia, regional organisations undertaking biodiversity projects in the Caribbean, representatives of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities and youth. These engagements have helped surface regional needs, map existing expertise, and foster new partnerships oriented toward collaboration, co-implementation, and knowledge sharing. The TSCC has thus begun to function as a “network of networks,” strengthening dialogue and trust among actors who previously worked in isolation.

The TSCC has also helped identify and prioritise key thematic focus areas, including data and knowledge management, resource mobilisation, science-policy interfaces, and inclusive engagement. By highlighting existing regional strengths and gaps, it has created momentum toward programmatic, integrated approaches rather than fragmented, project-based interventions. Collectively, these achievements represent an important transition from concept to coordinated regional platform, positioning the TSCC as a central mechanism to enhance the effectiveness, visibility, and impact of biodiversity action within CARICOM.

150 words

Achievement 2: Output

Summary of achievement

150 words

Achievement 3: Output

Summary of achievement

150 words

2. Main challenges during the 2025-2026 biennium and way forward

Challenge 1: Description (Delays in signing of the host agreement)

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Brief summary of challenge

The main challenges relating to the signing of the Host Agreement centred on procedural delays, clarity of roles, and alignment with administrative and legal requirements. Differences in interpretation of the TSCC's mandate, legal status, and privileges and immunities slowed negotiations, while internal approval processes across multiple Departments required careful coordination.

150 words

Challenge 2: Financing and resource mobilisation

Summary of challenge and possible solution or way forward

A key challenge for financing and resource mobilisation under the TSCC is the continued reliance on short-term, project-based, and donor-driven funding, which limits sustainability and long-term impact. Capacity constraints further restrict the development of bankable proposals, coordinated regional funding pipelines, and access to complex mechanisms such as the GEF, GCF, or innovative financing instruments. The CARICOM Private Sector Organisation has been invited to become a Partner in the TSCC to increase engagement with the private sector and non-traditional donors to increase opportunities to diversify funding sources and scale regional initiatives.

The way forward lies in strengthening the TSCC's role as a regional facilitator for programmatic resource mobilisation. This includes developing a coordinated regional project pipeline aligned to shared priorities, supporting joint proposal development across governments, regional institutions and academia, and building technical capacity in financial planning and donor engagement. The TSCC can also proactively explore innovative and blended finance options such as public-private partnerships, blue and green financing, and debt-for-nature mechanisms while improving donor coordination and visibility. Together, these measures can move the region from fragmented, short-term financing toward more predictable, diversified, and sustainable resource mobilisation.

150 words

Challenge 3: Description

Summary of challenge and possible solution or way forward

150 words