



CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM) Secretariat
CARICOM Technical and Scientific Cooperation Mechanism for Biodiversity
(CARICOM TSCM)
Draft Biennium Workplan (2025-2026)

Introduction

This draft workplan under **Table 1** is designed to support the development of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat subregional Technical and Scientific Cooperation Centre (TSCC) to promote, facilitate and enable technical, scientific cooperation and innovation among CARICOM Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and relevant organisations to enable CARICOM Member Institutions and other related bodies and individuals. To effectively utilise science, technology and innovation, including biotechnology research to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF). It outlines priority areas as identified by Caribbean CBD Parties during the assessment¹ and consultations², along with suggestions or ideas of potential activities, timelines, milestones, deliverables and indicators. **The workplan serves only as an updated draft following consultations with CARICOM Member States, regional institutions and selected representatives of IPLCs, women and youth. A validation meeting is scheduled for the last week of May 2026 where the CARICOM Partners Network (Steering Committee) are expected to review, validate and incorporate specific activities, based on their priorities and needs to strengthen science, technology and innovation.**

Summary

The CARICOM TSCC, a sub-regional TSC Centre of the Latin America and Caribbean group (GRULAC) of the CBD, will facilitate the pursuit of biodiversity-related goals and targets among member countries or institutions through collaborative actions and the exchange of technical and scientific knowledge, expertise, data, tools, resources, technologies, and technical experience. The TSC Centre will provide a “one-stop service centre” for CARICOM Member States

¹ CARICOM Secretariat (2023), Draft Assessment report on technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer including a list of ongoing activities focusing on technical and scientific cooperation, technology transfer and knowledge management in the African, Caribbean and Pacific regions.

² CARICOM Secretariat (2025), Development of a Technical and Scientific Cooperation (TSC) Support Centre for the CARICOM Secretariat, Stakeholder Consultation Report.

which are Parties to biodiversity-related conventions, CARICOM Member Institutions, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLC), women and youth organisations, and other relevant stakeholders. The services include but are not limited to: access to technical and scientific knowledge, expertise, tools and other resources, taking into account the science, technology and innovation capability gaps identified by Member States. Its key expected result is the **enhanced human and institutional capacity in science, technology and innovation in the Caribbean sub-region.**

The CBD TSCC established under Decision 15/8³ service the implementation needs of the KM-GBF, which comprises a set of 4 goals and 23 action-oriented targets for the protection and restoration of biodiversity, capacity-building, development, technical and scientific cooperation, technology transfer, and knowledge management. Notably, Target 20 focuses on enhancing capacities, cooperation, and technology access for effective implementation, while Target 21 emphasises access to optimal data and knowledge for biodiversity governance.

For the Caribbean countries, the majority of their NBSAPs' updated national Targets require TSC Centre support as an essential means of implementation. During the TSC assessment phase in 2023, Caribbean countries highlighted that when addressing substantive activities such as the restoration and rehabilitation of ecosystems (i.e. forest, marine, and freshwater ecosystems, etc), TSC is often the backbone. In addition, the NBSAPs activities concerning institutional strengthening, public education and awareness, and building the capacity of institutions, et cetera, there will be more work required at the national and regional levels to adequately infuse TSC across the full spectrum of activities covered by the NBSAPs. This will necessitate the integration of TSC into the specific implementing activities as a cross-cutting target.

Overall Objective

The overall objective of the CARICOM TSCC, is to form a mechanism to promote, facilitate and enable technical, scientific cooperation⁴ and innovation among Caribbean Parties to the CBD and relevant organisations to enable CARICOM Member Institutions and other related bodies and individuals to effectively utilise science, technology and innovation, including biotechnology research to support the implementation of the KM-GBF. Technical and scientific cooperation may include capacity and institutional building, expert exchange programmes and study tours, joint

³ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-15/cop-15-dec-08-en.pdf>

⁴ In this context, an operational definition of technical and scientific cooperation (TSC) may refer to a process whereby two or more countries or institutions pursue their individual or collective biodiversity-related goals through cooperative actions and/or through exchange of technical and scientific knowledge, expertise, data, tools and resources, technologies and technical know-how. Technical and scientific cooperation may include human resources development, institutional building, exchange of expertise, joint training, joint research, joint development and diffusion of technologies, including indigenous and traditional technologies, and the transfer of such technology and know-how.

training and research, joint development and diffusion of technologies, including indigenous and traditional technologies, and the transfer of such technology and knowledge.

Resource Requirements and budget

At minimum, US\$2.5M will be required over the first 2 years of the programme to establish the TSCC, initiating activities, and establishing relevant networks for research, training and technology transfer. Initiating activities by Year 2 will illustrate progress, commitment, and build trust in greater stakeholders' involvement and scaling up regional and international cooperation and implementing long-term strategies (e.g. CARICOM Regional Biodiversity Strategy, knowledge management, monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning).

Startup (Biennium 2025-2026): Indicative requirement: approximately US\$2.5 million -about US\$0.4M for operations/overheads and approximately US\$2.1M for pilot activities in priority areas identified through the assessment and consultations.

Table 2 provides key assumptions, implementation risks, and mitigating strategies directly from the structure, sequencing, and resource logic of the CARICOM TSCC two-year Workplan (2026–2027).

Table 1 - Results-based workplan (Updated Draft - April 17, 2026)

Expected Results and Activities	Activities	Indicators	Baseline Targets	Timeline					Partners	Proposed Budget (USD)
				Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5		
Overall Objective: Impact	To promote, facilitate and enable technical, scientific cooperation and innovation among Caribbean Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and relevant organisations to enable CARICOM Member Institutions and other related bodies and individuals to effectively utilise science, technology and innovation, including biotechnology research to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF).									
COMPONENT 1	OPERATIONALIZATION, RESOURCE MOBILISATION, PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT, MONITORING AND REPORTING								2.5 M	
Outcome 1 1: CARICOM TSCC successful operationalisation of an effective TSC support centre.	CARICOM TSCC achieves core operational milestones and is established as a functional support centre									
Output 1.1 - System of effective management in place for the TSCC	Activity 1.1.1 - Establish the CARICOM Network of Institutions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Full CARICOM Network of Institutions in place 2) Host agreement signed by SCBD & CARICOM Secretariat 3) MOAs established with all CARICOM TSCC Coordination Group 4) Regular meetings of the TSCC Coordination Group 5) MOAs signed with members of CARICOM TSCC Coordination Group 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Regional institutions identified and endorse TSCC (QTR2 2025) 2) TSCC approved by CARICOM Secretariat EMC (QTR4 2025) 3) First in-person meeting of the committee held (QTR 1 2026) 4) Develop draft ToR defining roles, responsibilities, mapping of experts and meeting arrangements by QTR2 2026) 5) At least 2 meetings annually of the TSCC Coordination Group 6) At least 5 members of the TSCC Coordination Group sign MOAs by end of 2026 						CARICOM Secretariat CARICOM Member States Regional Institutions IPLC rep Youth	
	Activity 1.1.2 – Sign host agreement with SCBD									
	Activity 1.1.3 – Establish and convene full CARICOM TSCC Coordination Group									
Output 1.2 – System of effective planning in place	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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Scoping study and assessment conducted 2) Consultation meetings with CARICOM Network of Partners to review drafts 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Scoping study and assessment completed QTR3 2023 2) Consultations with Caribbean CBD Focal Points, regional institutions and relevant organisations on draft 5-year 							

Expected Results and Activities	Activities	Indicators	Baseline Targets	Timeline					Partners	Proposed Budget (USD)
				Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5		
	<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>3) Consultations with Caribbean CBD Focal Points to review drafts</p> <p>4) Consultations with regional organisations to review drafts</p> <p>5) Workplan submitted and approved by CARICOM Network of Partners</p>	<p>workplan completed QTR2 2025</p> <p>3) Workplan approved by steering committee QTR2 2026</p> <p>4) Pilot activities incorporated into draft workplan</p>							
SUB TOTAL OUTCOME 1										240.0
Outcome 2: Visibility and responsiveness	CARICOM TSCC is recognized as a visible and responsible support center for Technical and Scientific cooperation in the Caribbean region									
Output 2.1 – TSCC Communications strategy and monitoring framework in place	Activity 2.1.1 – Launch CARICOM TSCC with Caribbean CBD Parties and Partners	1) Communications products; reach of communications products	1) At least 3 communications products disseminated in 2026							
	Activity 2.1.2 – Develop communications strategy and stakeholder management plan	2) Communications strategy developed	Stakeholders from 5 Member States by end of 2026							
	Activity 2.1.3 - Initiate and maintain regular communication with Parties and partners and other stakeholders through appropriate communication channels to share information	3) Stakeholder management plan developed	2) At least 1 joint side event by COP17							
	Activity 2.1.4 – Organize LAC TSCCs joint side events at UNCBD meetings/events	4) Quarterly email updates to Parties and partners and other stakeholders	3) At least 5 regional webinars conducted between Y1 & 2							
	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	5) Joint side events with LAC TSCCs conducted during COP processes	4) 2 webinars completed by end of 2026							
		6) Regional webinars conducted								

Expected Results and Activities	Activities	Indicators	Baseline Targets	Timeline					Partners	Proposed Budget (USD)
				Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5		
	2.1.6 – Conduct communications and advocacy training for IPLCs towards the production of case studies and knowledge products									
SUB-TOTAL OUTCOME 2										190.0
Outcome 3: Resource mobilization and partnership development	CARICOM TSCC initiates partnership development and process of identifying and developing long-term resource mobilization strategies									
Output 3.1 – System of effective Resource Mobilisation in place	<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>Activity 3.1.2 – Review donor requirements to assist in the identification and access to financial and technical resources including mobilisation of private sector investments (e.g. blended finance)</p> <p>Activity 3.1.3 – Develop a portfolio of regional projects (including joint proposals) based on regional priorities</p> <p>Activity 3.1.4 - Develop guidelines for biodiversity finance instruments including engagement of non-traditional donors (matching of donors with beneficiaries (debt-for-nature/debt-for-climate swaps, green and blue bonds etc (sharing of best practices and lessons learned)</p> <p>Activity 3.1.4 – Host LAC Regional donors roundtable meeting in partnership with other sub-regional TSCCs</p>	<p>1) Donor Engagement and Resource mobilization strategy (RMS) reviewed and approved by CARICOM Network of Partners</p> <p>2) Donor requirements list and guidelines for biodiversity finance including engagement of non-traditional donors developed</p> <p>3) # of proposals to potential donors developed and submitted</p> <p>4) LAC donors roundtable conducted</p>	<p>1) Draft Donor Engagement and Resource Mobilisation Strategy completed QTR2 2025</p> <p>2) Submit 2 proposals by end of QTR4 2026</p> <p>3) 1 LAC Donor roundtable conducted by QTR4 2026</p>							

Expected Results and Activities	Activities	Indicators	Baseline Targets	Timeline					Partners	Proposed Budget (USD)
				Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5		
Output 3.2 – Partnership development	Activity 3.2.1 - Map ongoing/new regional biodiversity projects/initiatives for synergies and capacities aligned to KM-GBF	1) Mapping of ongoing regional biodiversity projects/initiatives developed and updated on a regular basis 2) Develop new initiatives between CARICOM TSCC Coordination Group 3) Submit requests for experts and exchange information with global TSCCs 4) # of new networks developed/established	1) Mapping updated atleast 2 per year 2) Regular meetings with subregional TSCCs and global TSCCs 3) 3 new initiatives developed by QTR3 2027							
	Activity 3.2.2 - Support development of projects and programmes by Partners that would contribute to meeting needs of Parties									
	Activity 3.2.3 – Encourage Member States to establish new networks for collaboration (e.g. civil society groups, private sector, youth, women) to foster intersectoral cooperation among CARICOM TSCC Coordination Group									
	Activity 3.2.4 – Exchange of lessons learned and best practices with other TSCCs									
SUB TOTAL OUTCOME 3									250.0	
Outcome 4: To build a platform for Technical and Scientific cooperation and technology transfer to support the Parties and enhance regional biodiversity knowledge management	CARICOM TSCC initiates a platform for technical and scientific cooperation within the region/sub region and across the TSCC Network									
Output 4.1 - Establishment of a Caribbean-wide environmental (biodiversity) data hub linked to global databases	Activity 4.1.1 - Create regional expert roster of relevant organisations identifying relevant technical and scientific expertise including traditional knowledge, private sector involvement and capabilities	1) Regional expert roster created 2) Seminar conducted to facilitate knowledge sharing across Caribbean regional specific research 3) Regional stock-take of environmental information and data conducted 4) Caribbean-wide data hub mechanism developed	1) Roster updated regularly 2) Atleast 1 seminar per year 3) Review of existing sub regional initiatives conducted 4) Regional stock-take completed by QTR2 2027 5) Data hub mechanism drafted by end of 2027							
	Activity 4.1.2 - Map regional research landscape (all types and all scales) on biodiversity, including, but not limited to, Synthetic Biology, DSI, LMOs, ABS, and Sargassum									

Expected Results and Activities	Activities	Indicators	Baseline Targets	Timeline					Partners	Proposed Budget (USD)
				Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5		
	Activity 4.1.3 - Facilitate and share outcomes of Caribbean specific research, collate and share appropriate research from other regions, including scientific and traditional knowledge and models, case studies and lessons learnt									
	Activity 4.1.4 - Undertake a stock-take of available data, environmental information systems, data hubs, gaps and challenges in the region									
	Activity 4.1.5 - Support the development or enhancement of national biodiversity databases and links between these and regional and global databases									
Output 4.2 -- Support for a common monitoring, evaluation and learning system for biodiversity conservation at national and regional scales	Activity 4.2.1 – Develop CARICOM Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning Framework for biodiversity conservation aligned with the KM-GBF and national biodiversity frameworks	1) Draft CARICOM Regional biodiversity monitoring, evaluation framework for biodiversity conservation aligned with the KM-GBF 2) Draft presented for endorsement/approval	1) 0 2) Draft presented to CARICOM TSCC Coordination Group for feedback QTR2 2027							
SUB-TOTAL OUTCOME 4										1.8 m
GRAND TOTAL										

Table 2 - Key Assumptions, Risks, and Mitigation Measures by Outcome

Outcome 1 – Operationalisation (governance, planning, management)

Key Assumptions	Implementation Risks	Potential Impact on Implementation	Mitigation / Management Strategies
CARICOM Secretariat functions as incubator; EMC approval and SCBD host agreement secured on schedule; TSCC Coordination Group members execute MOAs.	Governance/approval slippage; delays in MOA execution; limited institutional capacity for start-up coordination.	Delayed operationalisation and reduced early credibility with Members and partners.	Parallel processing of approvals with interim coordination arrangements; phased roll-out of functions; early designation of focal points.
Minimum operational funding mobilised in Year 1 to initiate operations and pilots; Secretariat bandwidth available for start-up tasks.	Funding shortfalls or delays affecting early activities and staffing.	Reduced scope of activities; slower start-up and inability to demonstrate quick wins.	Prioritise low-cost, high-visibility activities; early donor engagement; leverage in-kind support.

Outcome 2 – Visibility & Responsiveness (communications & engagement)

Key Assumptions	Implementation Risks	Potential Impact on Implementation	Mitigation / Management Strategies
Stakeholders engage via TSCC communication channels; opportunities available for regional/global visibility including joint side events.	Low uptake of communications; resource/logistical constraints for regional/global events participation.	TSCC not recognised as the regional support mechanism; reduced responsiveness to Parties' needs.	Targeted communications strategy and stakeholder plan; leverage CARICOM and partner platforms; hybrid/virtual engagement.
Webinars and updates attract participation from at least five Member States by end-2026.	Fragmented messaging across institutions leading to weak brand recognition.	Diminished partner engagement and duplication of efforts.	Consistent branding and coordinated editorial calendar; joint LAC TSCC side events.

Outcome 3 – Resource Mobilisation & Partnership Development

Key Assumptions	Implementation Risks	Potential Impact on Implementation	Mitigation / Management Strategies
Donor priorities align with KM- GBF and Caribbean needs; partners coordinate through TSCC.	Limited donor interest; competition for funds; duplication with existing initiatives.	Insufficient funding for activities and scale-up; reduced efficiency and impact.	Diversify funding sources; package pilots as scalable investments; convene LAC donor roundtable.
Draft Donor Engagement & Resource Mobilisation Strategy	Partnerships remain ad hoc without clear value proposition.	Missed synergies and fragmented delivery.	Live mapping of regional initiatives; formalise TSCC

informs pipeline and proposals by 2026.			convening role and partnership MoUs.
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Outcome 4 – Platform for Technical & Scientific Cooperation and Technology Transfer

Key Assumptions	Implementation Risks	Potential Impact on Implementation	Mitigation / Management Strategies
Member States share data and expertise; technical capacity exists to develop MEAL and data systems.	Data sensitivity and IP concerns; variation in national capacities; integration challenges with existing systems.	Limited functionality of regional data platforms; delays in regional MEAL framework endorsement.	Clear data governance (access tiers, FPIC, standards); modular, incremental development; targeted technical assistance.
Stock-take completed by Q2-2027 to inform a drafted data-hub mechanism by end-2027.	Insufficient resources for sustained data governance and platform maintenance.	Platform sustainability risks post-pilot.	Define O&M and custodianship arrangements; align with existing sub-regional initiatives.