



## Appendix 2: ECROP Three-Year Strategic Action Plan

### Priority 1: Maritime Boundary Delimitation

*It is in the national interest of all OECS Member States that they deposit with the United Nations, base-point coordinates, charts and other information delineating their maritime zones in order to establish and secure their rights and responsibilities over their marine waters and the resources therein.*

#### Action 1.1 - Negotiate, agree and delimit maritime boundaries with third party (non-OECS) States - (Policy Goal 1.1)

Activities	Responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-establish the OECS Maritime Boundary Delimitation Task Force to include representatives from the Secretariat and from each OECS State including expertise in law, cartography, marine survey, fisheries and geology and was mandated to undertake technical preparatory work for negotiations with third party States</li> </ul>	<b>OECS Secretariat</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and revise, as appropriate the OECS General Negotiating Briefs established with regard to third party States</li> </ul>	<b>OECS Secretariat</b>

#### Action 1.2 - Negotiate, agree and delimit maritime boundaries between OECS Member States - (Policy Goal 1.1)

Activities	Responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish or re-establish as appropriate National Maritime Boundary Delimitation Committees</li> </ul>	<b>States</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and revise, as appropriate, national baselines and base points and implementing domestic legislation</li> </ul>	<b>States</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commence negotiations between OECS Member States to delimitate their maritime boundaries</li> </ul>	<b>States / OECS Secretariat</b>



## Priority 2: Preserve and Protect the Marine Environment

*The ocean ecosystems of the eastern Caribbean and their marine biological diversity are a key regional asset for our member States. OECS Member States recognise that ecosystem health and integrity is fundamental to ecologically sustainable development. They also provide a range of essential services that would be extremely costly or impossible to restore or replace once they are lost. If utilisation of these resources is well managed they can meet broad range of economic, social and cultural aspirations.*

### Action 2.1 - Establish a network of marine protected areas and implement [where practicable] the Caribbean Challenge Initiative - (Policy Goal 2.1)

Activities	Responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessment of existing MPAs in each Member State</li> </ul>	<b>States</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development and establish of a national plan for the system of protected areas (also known as the “Systems Plan”) as appropriate</li> </ul>	<b>States</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen management systems and capacities</li> </ul>	<b>States</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish management plans for Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) or Zones</li> </ul>	<b>States</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish mechanisms for sustained financing of MPAs including through the establishment of the national biodiversity trust fund</li> </ul>	<b>States</b>

### Action 2.2 - Improve compliance with international and national environmental requirements - (Policy Goal 4.2)

Activities	Responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update the national St. George’s Declaration (SGD) report</li> </ul>	<b>States</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake a stocktaking of member countries’ implementation of international environmental agreements</li> </ul>	<b>OECS Secretariat/States</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incorporate Environmental and Socioeconomic Impact Assessments into planning and decision making frameworks</li> </ul>	<b>States</b>



## Priority 3: Promote Sustainable Economic Development

*A strong and sustained maritime economy is only possible if the mechanisms that enable investors to support maritime activities are created. To do so it is essential to provide credible up-to-date information that can be used to enhance the economic and social development of OECS countries. It is also necessary to promote the definition of rapid, transparent and investment-friendly mechanisms for the creation and attraction of maritime industries and the exploitation of existing natural resources.*

### Action 3.1 Develop the ocean economy - (Policy Goals 3.1 & 3.2)

Activities	Responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member States complete systematic analysis to quantify the value of their ocean economies and the potential value of key marine resources/activities</li> </ul>	<b>States<sup>24</sup></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance the ocean as a key element in the tourism sector, creating conditions for the best use of the ocean and coastal zones and supporting the quality and diversity of the range of tourist products</li> </ul>	<b>States / OECS Secretariat</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote and enhance the region's port and marina facilities, by examining the viability of value added services, to enhance the economic opportunities they present</li> </ul>	<b>States / OECS Secretariat</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support continued implementation of the OECS Fisheries Management and Development Strategy and Implementation Plan</li> </ul>	<b>States / OECS Secretariat</b>

### Action 3.2 - Adopt an integrated approach to development and management of the ocean - (Policy Goals 4.1 & 4.2)

Activities	Responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote a shift from the traditional sector-specific approaches to management to a more integrated 'whole of government' governance approach that recognise the contribution the ocean economy can make to national development goals</li> </ul>	<b>States / OECS Secretariat</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen processes that support integrated or ecosystems based management<sup>25</sup> and assist member governments to</li> </ul>	<b>OECS Secretariat</b>

<sup>24</sup> This could be led/coordinated at the regional level as some resources may be shared. It would also make the best use of limited capacities to do such analyses and take a harmonised approach



develop capacity to undertake integrated management that is responsive to local conditions	
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**Action 3.3 - Apply marine spatial planning for improving management to achieve economic development - (Policy Goal 4.3)**

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote spatial planning of existing activities, foreseeing potential and future uses and mapping out opportunities at the regional and national levels<sup>26</sup></li> </ul>	<b>OECS Secretariat</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct an audit to ascertain existing availability of marine data</li> </ul>	<b>OECS Secretariat</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Document all existing and possible future activities that occur and their spatial extent</li> </ul>	<b>OECS Secretariat</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate a workshop to evaluate and synthesise the data and to start generating a Marine Spatial Plan</li> </ul>	<b>OECS Secretariat</b>

<sup>25</sup> This includes providing support to Member States in the implementation of OECS Fisheries Management and Development Strategy and implementation Plan

<sup>26</sup> This includes an initial scoping study to review, across all States of the OECS, the national and regional requirements for Maritime Spatial Data



## Priority 4: Reform Ocean Governance

*The Regional Ocean Policy stems from the desire to achieve responsible ocean governance across the OECS. Governance is an overarching theme that is an essential part of the ECROP. The overall aim of reforming the current governance arrangements should be to establish, strengthen, and implement effective governance mechanisms that contribute to the implementation of the ECROP.*

### Action 4.1 - Establish high-level coordinated institutional arrangements for integrated ocean and coastal management - (Policy Goal 4.1)

Activities	Responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a regional OECS Ocean Governance Team made up of a network of national Focal Points from each member country</li> </ul>	<b>States / OECS Secretariat</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and mandate a national lead agency to participate at the regional OECS level</li> </ul>	<b>States</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish an organizational structure and lines of communication that supports the programs established by the National Agency and facilitates consultation with private stakeholder</li> </ul>	<b>States</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OECS Secretariat and Heads of Government engage adjacent non-OECS Member States in a broader policy development process to achieve a broader acceptance and application of the regional ocean policy</li> </ul>	<b>States / OECS Secretariat</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote efforts to build coordination, create greater capacity and reduce duplication by pooling resources to reduce costs</li> </ul>	<b>OECS Secretariat</b>

### Action 4.2 - Review, strengthen and/or establish policy, legal and planning arrangements in accordance with national and regional needs and capacities - (Policy Goal 4.2)

Activities	Responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake a stocktake of IEAs that OECS Member States should accede to</li> </ul>	<b>OECS Secretariat</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National governments accede to and implement all relevant international and regional instruments</li> </ul>	<b>States</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OECS member governments establish national ocean policies which must both reflect national priorities and be consistent with</li> </ul>	<b>States</b>



the regional policy framework. The process of establishing and implementing such a policy should be inclusive of relevant stakeholders	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve existing and develop new, as appropriate, national legislation and guidelines on marine environmental protection</li> </ul>	<b>States</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effectively participate in relevant regional (Caribbean-wide) ocean governance initiatives</li> </ul>	<b>OECS Secretariat / States</b>

## Priority 5: Awareness Raising and Participation

*An informed public ensures the social acceptability that will enhance ocean governance decision making and implementation. Community participation is a key to promoting and instituting a duty of care for the marine environment. Awareness creation, participation and consultation will assist in promoting understanding and stewardship by all stakeholders; ensuring that decision makers and members of the public are accountable for actions they take that affect both ocean and coastal resources*

### Action 5.1 - Increasing awareness and stimulating participation - (Policy Goals 5.1 & 5.2)

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and promote public awareness of oceans and ocean issues and promote public education on oceans</li> </ul>	<b>States / OECS Secretariat</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a process to identify and stimulate the participation of local communities and local industries in planning and management strategies and to share responsibility for the management of ocean resources</li> </ul>	<b>States / OECS Secretariat</b>



## Priority 6 Support Research and capacity building

*Knowledge of the marine environment is a critical need for effective decision making. The more that is known about the marine environment, the better people's interaction with it can be managed. Integrating diverse and complex information, supplemented by new research contributes to the advancement and management of oceans resources. It is particularly important to recognise the capacity that does exist at a national, regional or wider Caribbean level and determine what needs exist or will need to be met in the future. Upgrading skills and understanding of decision makers and professional in all sectors can be assisted by awareness creation, participation and consultation.*

### **Action 6.1 - Develop research strategy and support training – (Policy Goals 6.1, 6.2 & 6.3)**

Activities	Responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a marine research strategy that identifies key data requirements for decision making, monitoring and evaluation and supports investment for new and emerging opportunities</li> </ul>	<b>OECS Secretariat/ States</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determine training needs related to marine science, marine affairs and marine management that is relevant to coastal and ocean management</li> </ul>	<b>OECS Secretariat / States</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support training of decision makers and planners in marine science, marine affairs and marine management that is relevant to coastal and ocean management</li> </ul>	<b>States/ OECS Secretariat</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate/support research to increase understanding of the marine environment, its natural processes and cultural marine</li> </ul>	<b>UWI – CERMES / States / OECS Secretariat</b>



## Priority 7 – Building resilience and managing for uncertainty

*Planning and management for use of ocean resources, particularly the living marine resources, would help Member countries to accommodate uncertainty in assessments of resources and implementation of strategies that build ecological resilience. The impacts of climate change are particularly important as they will lead to increased vulnerability for development and significant changes for many Eastern Caribbean States.*

### Action 7.1 - Adaptation and resilience building (Policy Goal 7.1)

Activities	Responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify appropriate adaptation and resilience building strategies<sup>27</sup> for incorporation into sustainable development, conservation and governance actions to reduce risk of coastal hazards and climate change</li> </ul>	<b>States</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate/support the incorporation of appropriate adaptation and resilience building strategies into sustainable development, conservation and governance actions to reduce risk of coastal hazards and climate change</li> </ul>	<b>States / OECS Secretariat</b>

<sup>27</sup> This would be linked to the Caribbean Community's Strategy and Roadmap; and, Caribbean Disaster and Emergency Management Agency's (CDEMA's) Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) Strategy.