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## VOLUME 2 – Supplement 3

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REPORT OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE MINISTERIAL  
SUB-COMMITTEE ON FLYINGFISH  
22 FEBRUARY 2013

**CHAIRPERSON:**

**Hon. V. Alfred Gray, M.P.  
Minister of Agriculture, Marine  
Resources and Local Government  
THE BAHAMAS**

**DATE AND VENUE:**

**Port of Spain  
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

**22 February 2013**

**CRFM Secretariat, Belize  
2013**

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## **Abbreviations and Acronyms**

CANARI	-	Caribbean Natural Resources Institute
CLME	-	Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem
CRFM	-	Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism
GEF	-	Global Environmental Facility
NGO	-	Non-governmental Organization
SAP	-	Strategic Action Programme
TDA	-	Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis
UWI	-	University of the West Indies
WECAFC	-	Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Second Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Sub-committee on Flyingfish was held at the Hilton Trinidad and Conference Centre, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago on 22 February 2013. The Meeting was chaired by the Honourable V. Alfred Gray, Minister of Agriculture, Marine Resources and Local Government, The Bahamas.

## 2. WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

The Meeting was called to order and the **Director of Fisheries, Trinidad and Tobago**, led the participants in singing the National Anthem of Trinidad and Tobago. The **Dominica Representative** led the meeting with a short prayer.

**Senator, the Honourable Devant Maharaj, Minister of Food Production, Trinidad and Tobago**, welcomed the representatives of the visiting countries and also the members of the Trinidad and Tobago delegation to the meeting. The **Honourable Minister** took the opportunity to congratulate the delegations from **Grenada** and Barbados on the recently concluded general elections.

The **Honourable Minister** praised this initiative by the CRFM Secretariat, to develop an integrated approach for the conservation and management of the region's shared fisheries resources, in particular, its flyingfish (*Hirundichthys affinis*) fishery. He noted that the involvement by the major players within the region in this process would contribute significantly to the development and subsequent implementation of appropriate management measures and other strategies to effectively deal with any challenges. In this regard the **Honourable Minister** informed the meeting that Trinidad and Tobago was in the process of upgrading its principal fisheries legislation, which had been in place since 1916. The **Honourable Minister** then handed over to the **Chairman, Honourable V. Alfred Gray, Minister of Agriculture, Marine Resources and Local Government, The Bahamas**.

The Honourable Minister's full speech can be seen at *Annex I*.

The **Chairman** welcomed all the participants to the meeting and asked that a moment of silence be observed in honour of **Honourable Michael Denis Lett, former Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Grenada**, who recently passed away. He went on to advise that it was a privilege for him to have been invited to Chair this Second Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Sub-Committee on Flyingfish.

The **Chairman** noted that the agenda was very packed, and urged all present to keep discussions and comments focused, in an effort to complete the agenda in the time allotted. He extended gratitude to all Ministers and other country representatives for taking time out from their busy schedules to attend the meeting, and asked that members present, introduced themselves to the meeting.

### **3. REPRESENTATION**

Participants then introduced themselves as requested by the Chairman. The list of participants in attendance is at *Annex II*.

### **4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

The **Chairman** asked if there were any observations, reservations or objections to the agenda as presented. There were no interventions by participants. .

The **Trinidad and Tobago Representative (Tobago)** moved that the agenda be adopted, and the **Grenada Representative** seconded the move.

The Agenda, as adopted by the Meeting, is at *Annex III*.

## 5. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

The **Chairman** referred to the **Executive Director** for details on this item.

The **Executive Director** advised that there would be a fifteen minute coffee break at 10:00am and lunch was scheduled for 12:30pm.

## 6. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE CRFM MINISTERIAL SUB-COMMITTEE ON FLYINGFISH, 18 OCTOBER 2012, ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

The **Chairman** referred to the draft report and asked all present to confirm that they had received same.

The **Executive Director** advised that the report was circulated by email to all members of the Sub-committee approximately two weeks before, and that a hard copy was available in the folders provided to participants.

In the discussions that ensued;

The **Barbados Representative** referred to page 2, paragraph 3 of the draft report and asked that the statement:

*“The Chairman further requested that the concerns of Barbados be documented and distributed to the Members of the Sub-Committee as soon as possible so that the issues can be formally reviewed at the Second Meeting of the Sub-Committee, in order to allow sufficient time for Committee members to properly review the submission.”* be amended to properly capture the decision of the Sixth Ministerial Council report (pages 25 and 26 of that report) as follows:



The **Executive Director** clarified that the text in the Draft Report was a true representation of the statement made by the Chairman during the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Ministerial Sub-committee which was held on 18 October 2013 in Antigua and Barbuda

The **Barbados Representative** referred to the draft Report of the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Sub-committee and argued that the Report should be amended to reflect that the Sixth Meeting of the Ministerial Council held on 15 June 2012 in Nassau, The Bahamas, "...[a]greed that the concerns expressed by Barbados would best be addressed by the Sub-Committee during its First Meeting." (First paragraph on page 26, Report of the Sixth Meeting of the Ministerial Council of the CRFM, Nassau, The Bahamas, June 15, 2012)

The **Executive Director** agreed to incorporate the change and advised that the amendment will be reflected in the final report of the First Meeting of the Sub-committee.

The **Chairman** asked for further comments, and none were received. He proceeded to ask that the report be adopted.

The **Trinidad and Tobago** representative moved that the report of the First Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Sub-committee be adopted with the changes agreed.

The move was seconded by the representative from **St. Vincent and the Grenadines**.

The **Barbados Representative** interjected that the report should be adopted with the amendments as indicated.

The **Ministerial Sub-Committee:**

**Reviewed and adopted** the Report of the First Meeting of the Ministerial Sub-Committee on Flyingfish, St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda, 18 October 2012, with the amendments as indicated by the **Barbados Representative**.

## 7. REVIEW OF THE TORS OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE AND CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSION BY BARBADOS ON THE SUB-COMMITTEE

The **Chairman** referred the meeting to the Terms of Reference of the Ministerial Sub-committee on Flyingfish and invited the **Barbados Delegation** to make its presentation.

The **Barbados Representative** referred to the second part of the agenda title, which focused on the consideration of submission by Barbados on the Sub-committee, and informed the Meeting that **Barbados** had decided not to pursue the issue and was therefore withdrawing the request to submit comments on the Sub-committee. He further noted that Barbados still had a few minor issues of concern regarding the TORs of the Sub-committee, which they would seek to address during the course of the meeting.

The **Chairman** directed the attention of the Meeting to the TORs of the Ministerial Sub-committee and the actions requested, and asked Members of the Sub-committee for comments.

In reviewing the TORs, the following changes were proposed:

The **Trinidad and Tobago Representative** asked that the pages of the TORs be assigned page numbers.

The following other changes to the section of the TORs dealing with the Functions of the Sub-committee were proposed:

Subsection 1. -Delete “policy decisions” and replace with “*recommendations for policy decisions*”

Subsection 2.1. - Delete “the policy” and replace with “*recommendations for policy*”

Subsection 3.1. - Delete “Adopt proposals” and replace with “*Review proposals and make recommendations*”

Subsection 3.3. - Delete “agree” and replace with “*make recommendations on proposed*”

Subsection 3.4. - Delete “agree” and replace with “*propose*”

Subsection 3.5. -Delete “Sub-committee” and replace with “*Ministerial Council*”; and delete “or” and replace with “*and to*”

Subsection 3.6. - Insert “*Ministerial*” before Council

Subsection 3.8. -Delete everything starting from the words “any question...resources are found.”  
And replace with “*in order to achieve*”

Subsection 3.9. - End sentence after “(or other competent bodies)” and delete “regarding the conservation, management and sustainable use of the flyingfish resources”

Subsection 3.10. - Insert “*Ministerial*” before Council

Subsection 4. - Delete “and” found before “the 1995”. Insert “*and any other relevant agreement to which the Member States are signatories*” at the end of the statement.

There being no further amendments, the **Chairman** asked that the TORs, with proposed agreed amendments, be endorsed by the Ministerial Sub-committee.

The revised TORs can be seen at *Annex IV*.

The **Ministerial Sub-Committee**:

**Noted** that Barbados had withdrawn its request to submit further comments on the establishment and TORs of the Ministerial Sub-Committee;

**Acknowledged** the need to conclude on the Terms of Reference and move on with the substantive work of the Sub-Committee;

**Reviewed** and **endorsed** the TORS for the Sub-Committee with the amendments discussed and agreed to by the Meeting.

## 8. UPDATE ON THE PROGRESS OF THE CLME PROJECT

### (a) *CLME project overview and its Strategic Action Programme (SAP)*

The **Executive Director** gave a brief introduction on this item, and made a presentation on the CLME Project including the development of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP). He highlighted the need for Member States to ensure that the national consultations on the Draft SAP document are held prior to the planned Steering Committee Meeting on March 5-6 in Cartagena, Colombia. The Executive Director also emphasized the need for States, at the Ministerial level to endorse the SAP without delay to ensure that additional funds are made available by the GEF and other donors to support implementation of the recommendations contained in the SAP.

The Meeting thanked the Executive Director for the presentation and deferred the taking of comments or questions until after the second presentation on the subject. The presentation can be seen at *Annex V*.

### (b) *Case Study on Flyingfish and related SAP report*

The **Deputy Executive Director** gave a brief presentation on this item, including a presentation setting out the objectives and achievements of the Case Study on Flyingfish Fishery.

The Meeting thanked the **Deputy Executive Director** for the presentation. The presentation can be seen at *Annex VI*.

A clarification was requested by the **Dominica Representative**, on examples of pollution that might affect flyingfish stocks, given that they are migratory species. The **Executive Director** responded by informing the delegates that pollution can arise from both marine and land-based sources, and in addition, affect the fish directly and indirectly by compromising the ecological

integrity of the marine environment. He further explained that there was irrefutable scientific evidence linking the distribution and abundance of flyinfish in the region to discharge of freshwater from the South American river systems. He reminded the meeting that the recent massive influx of sargassum seaweed in the eastern Caribbean in 2011, which adversely affected the flyingfish fishery was associated with higher than normal levels of rainfall in South America and possible changes in the normal ocean current patterns in the Atlantic ocean.

The **Deputy Executive Director** further expanded by reminding the delegates that a Strategic Action Plan (SAP) should consider all possibilities, in order to have strategies in place to address all potential issues in the future. She advocated endorsement of the SAP, which will be presented to the Ministerial Council later in 2013

**(c) *CRFM / WECAFC proposed new flyingfish management plan and regulations***

The **Deputy Executive Director** gave a brief presentation on this item.

The Meeting thanked the Deputy Executive Director for the presentation. The presentation can be seen at *Annex VII*. There were no comments or questions following the presentation.

**(d) *Cooperation with France in the sustainable use and management of Eastern Caribbean Flyingfish***

The **Chairman** referred to the **Executive Director** for the presentation on this item.

The **Executive Director** advised the meeting that the CRFM had invited the French Islands of Martinique and Guadeloupe to participate in the Ministerial Sub-committee in an effort to develop a cooperative relationship with them. He explained that the flyingfish resources were currently harvested by seven States in the Caribbean, comprising six CRFM Members plus the French Island of Martinique. He further explained that as a consequence, the CRFM States and

Martinique needed to work together in a cooperative manner to ensure effective management, conservation and sustainable development of the flyingfish fishery. The Executive Director pointed out that while the CRFM had been working closely with the French Islands at the technical and scientific levels, higher level engagement at the policy level was required to ensure the development and implementation of harmonized policy and management interventions.

The Executive Director informed the Meeting that the CRFM had made several initiatives to improve cooperation with the French but have so far been unsuccessful. For example, he noted that the French had been invited to attend the Meetings of the Sub-committee but have not done so to date although they have expressed keen interest in the work being done by the CRFM on fisheries resources in the region.

In the discussions that ensued;

It was acknowledged that cooperation exists with CRFM and the French Departments of Martinique and Guadeloupe at a technical and scientific level, however, these needed to be expanded to cooperation at the policy level.

France, and possibly the EU, would need to be engaged for formal agreements on management and conservation of flyingfish and other transboundary stocks, which Martinique and Guadeloupe share with CARICOM Member States.

The Executive Director also noted the frequent incidents and allegations of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing conducted by French fishers in the waters of neighbouring CARICOM Member States in the Eastern Caribbean, the allegations of undocumented transshipment of fish at sea, and the high level of interest on the part of fishers and exporters from the CARICOM States in gaining access to the French markets in Martinique and Guadeloupe.

The **Barbados Representative** indicated that building a relationship with France has been a long standing initiative of the CARICOM Secretariat, and several approaches have been attempted to

do so, including establishing development initiatives through the private sector and through joint initiatives with the European Union.

The **Dominica Representative** added that the issue of improving cooperative relations with the French Islands was first introduced on the CRFM Ministerial Council Agenda approximately two years ago, and that he was glad to see the sustained efforts and enhanced interest and importance now being placed on this initiative by the CRFM. He further said that the Meeting should determine the most appropriate level, technical or political, at which the region should approach France to succeed in building stronger relationship to address regional fisheries issues. He queried whether it would be through the CARICOM Secretariat or the CRFM Secretariat; or at a bi-lateral level or multilateral level, which is considered to be the present level at which the Ministerial Sub-Committee is operating.

In response, the **Barbados Representative** noted that the CRFM is presently engaged with France at the technical level, and if the decision is made to go through the CARICOM Secretariat, it would change to a political level, which may cause further delays. He recommended that the Ministerial Sub-Committee consider a two pronged approach by firstly ensuring that the technical level discussions with France were maintained / continued, and secondly, that political level intervention should also be pursued after consultation with the CARICOM Secretariat.

The Sub-committee identified the following issues that should inform the process of strengthening relations with French Islands:

- (a) CRFM should prepare a comprehensive brief / aide memoire identifying the relevant background issues that should be taken into consideration, including IUU fishing and the need for cooperation for effective management of shared fish stocks. The document should also set out options for approaching the French Government to improve cooperation in fisheries.
- (b) The brief/aide memoire should be submitted to the CARICOM Secretariat seeking their input and guidance on the way forward;

- (c) A copy of the brief/aide memoire should be submitted to the OECS Secretariat for their input since they too have an interest in strengthening relations with the French;
- (d) The document should then be submitted to the next meeting of the Sub-committee for review and approval. The way forward may involve the Chairman of the Council writing to the appropriate French Embassy and EU delegation to register the region's interest in strengthening cooperation in fisheries;
- (e) In the meantime the CRFM Secretariat should continue working with the French as the technical level..

The **Chairman** recommended that, concurrently, the Secretariat should draft the brief and letter, intended for communication with the relevant institution(s).

The **Ministerial Sub-Committee:**

**Noted** that Martinique was an important participant in the flyingfish fishery and the update provided regarding the development of a cooperative relationship with France, including the fruitful interactions between the French Islands and the CRFM Member States at the technical and scientific level;

**Emphasized** the need for closer cooperation with France at all levels to ensure coordinated and concerted action for sustainable use, conservation and management of the flyingfish resources and other shared fish stocks;

**Requested** the Chairman of the Ministerial Council to write to the Government of France to express the interest of the Member States in strengthening cooperation with the French Islands regarding the flyingfish and other shared species;

**Agreed** that the CRFM Secretariat should prepare a comprehensive brief / aide memoire identifying the relevant issues that should be taken into consideration in seeking to further



develop relations with Martinique and Guadeloupe, including IUU fishing, requirements for management and conservation of shared fish stocks, etc., and send it to the CARICOM Secretariat seeking their input and guidance on the way forward;

**Further agreed** that after receipt of the Brief/Aid Memoire, the Council should agree an approach to the French Government and/or the EU as appropriate to seek improved cooperation on fisheries matters in the region.

## **9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The **Chairman** asked if there were any other items to be discussed.

The **St. Vincent and the Grenadines Representative** commended **Saint Lucia** for achieving another year of independence, making this its 34<sup>th</sup> year of independence.

## **10. DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The **Chairman** referred to the **Executive Director** for the details on this item.

The **Executive Director** advised that the Seventh Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council is scheduled for 31 May 2013 in Barbados, which would be a one-day meeting. The Executive Director suggested that the next meeting of the Ministerial Sub-committee could be held on 30 May 2013, immediately before the Seventh Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council Meeting.

The **Barbados Representative** recommended that the meetings be held as follows:

Third Meeting of Ministerial Sub-Committee: 30 May 2013, Barbados

Seventh Meeting of CRFM Ministerial Council: 31 May 2013, Barbados

The **Ministerial Sub-Committee:**

**Agreed** that the dates and place for the next Meeting of the Ministerial Sub-committee and the CRFM Ministerial Council would be as follows:

Third Meeting of Ministerial Sub-Committee: 30 May 2013, Barbados

Seventh Meeting of CRFM Ministerial Council: 31 May 2013, Barbados

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

The delegates thanked Trinidad and Tobago for its superb hospitality and support. They also commended the CRFM Secretariat for its technical support and work, and extended their appreciation for the effective and sterling leadership of the Chairman.

The delegates also expressed their sorrow and extended condolences to the people of Grenada on the passing of the late Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Mr. Michael Denis Lett.

The Meeting was adjourned at 12:20pm.



# **WELCOME ADDRESS**

**Senator the Honourable Devant Maharaj,  
Minister of Food Production**

**Second Meeting of the CRFM  
Ministerial Sub-Committee on Flying Fish**

*February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013  
Hilton Hotel*

## **SALUTATIONS**

- Honourable Jairam Seemungal, Minister of State in the Ministry of Food Production, Trinidad and Tobago
- Honourable Vergeneas Alfred Gray, Minister of Agriculture, Marine Resources and Local Government in The Bahamas
- Honourable Kenneth Darroux, Minister of the Environment, Natural Resources, Physical Planning and Fisheries in Dominica
- Honourable Saboto Caesar, Minister of Agriculture, Rural Transformation, Forestry and Fisheries in St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- Mr. Michael King Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Food Fisheries and Water Resource Management, representing Barbados
- Mr. Hurbert Emmanuel, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Food Production, Fisheries and Rural Development, representing St. Lucia
- Mr. Justin Rennie, Chief Fisheries Officer, Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries, in Grenada

- Ms. Myrna Thompson, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Food Production, Trinidad and Tobago
- Permanent Secretaries present from our neighbouring islands
- Mrs. Christine Chan A Shing, Director of the Fisheries Division, Ministry of Food Production, Trinidad and Tobago
- Fisheries Officers from across the region
- Specially invited guests
- Members of the media
- Ladies and gentlemen

Good morning.

It is my great pleasure and privilege to welcome you to this Second (2<sup>nd</sup>) meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Committee on Flyingfish and to Trinidad and Tobago; A very special welcome to all who are visiting Trinidad and Tobago for the first time. I wish to use this opportunity to convey condolences to the people of Grenada on the recent (end of January) passing of the Hon. Michael Denis Lett, former Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, of Grenada and to acknowledge his contribution to the integration process with particular reference to this Ministerial Subcommittee and the Ministerial Council of the CRFM.

The opportunity is also taken to express congratulations on behalf of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to The Honourable Dr. Keith Mitchell on his landslide victory at the polls in Grenada last Tuesday, we look forward to welcoming our new colleague in due course. We await the outcome of the electoral process in Barbados and are most happy to



welcome the delegation of Barbados given that you have only just concluded elections and again we look forward to welcoming our colleague in this regard.

The hosting of this meeting is testimony of the importance of the flying fish fishery to Trinidad and Tobago and in particular Tobago. It is my hope that in the near future it will be possible for us to have meetings of this Ministerial Committee in Tobago so that there is a first-hand appreciation of the value of this fishery to the people of Tobago.

The flyingfish fishery in Tobago makes a considerable contribution to food security and provides a livelihood for several persons in a number of ways, fishing, processing, restaurant menus, equipment and supplies.

Given the importance of the fishery and the recognition that the geographic range of the species and the associated assemblage that constitute the complex identified as the flyingfish fishery, Trinidad and Tobago acknowledges that



an integrated approach to the management of the resources is imperative.

In this regard a management plan that includes the major players of the region is endorsed. Management Plans directed at resource sustainability objectives means that hard decisions must be taken and there may be livelihood challenges for which suitable alternatives may need to be sought to mitigate such challenges. With respect to this all players will need to be on board.

We recognize that consultation and collaboration is key to the success of any fisheries management measure adopted at all levels, in this regard there is great concern with respect to the communication and circulation of appropriate documents to guide the decision making process. I wish to urge the Secretariat to work with the Caribbean Fisheries Forum to ensure that these matters can be addressed expeditiously.

Here in Trinidad and Tobago we are working to establish an appropriate governance framework for the management of the marine fisheries resources underpinned by updated legislation. We accept that this has been long in coming. The updated legislation will address the statutory governance obligations providing for some of the very same measures elaborated in the draft management plan for flyingfish.

I look forward to hosting this meeting; I appreciate you all for being here and due to time constraints I shall not prolong the session any further. Welcome to all and I wish a successful outcome to today's proceedings.

I thank you.

**Annex II**

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

**Second Meeting of the Ministerial Sub-Committee on Flyingfish**

**22 February 2013**

**Trinidad and Tobago**

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Report of the Second Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Sub-committee on Flyingfish  
Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 22 February 2013

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Hon. Jairam Seemungal

Report of the Second Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Sub-committee on Flyingfish  
Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 22 February 2013

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Report of the Second Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Sub-committee on Flyingfish  
Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 22 February 2013

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**CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM**

**SECRETARIAT**

**SECOND MEETING OF THE  
MINISTERIAL SUB-COMMITTEE  
ON FLYINGFISH**

**RESTRICTED**

**MSCFF 2013 / 02 / 01**

**Trinidad and Tobago  
22 February 2013**

Document date: 21 February 2013

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**DRAFT AGENDA**

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Procedural Matters
4. Review and adoption of the Draft Report of the First Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Sub-Committee on Flyingfish, 18 October 2012, Antigua and Barbuda
5. Review of the TORS of the Sub-Committee and Consideration of Submission by Barbados on the Sub-Committee
6. Update on the Progress of the CLME Project
  - 6.1 CLME project overview and its Strategic Action Programme (SAP)
  - 6.2 Case Study on Flyingfish and related SAP report
  - 6.3 CRFM-WECAFC proposed new flyingfish management plan
  - 6.4 Cooperation with France in the sustainable use and management of Eastern Caribbean Flyingfish
7. Any Other Business
8. Date and Place of Next Meeting
9. Adjournment

## CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM

### Ministerial Sub-Committee on Flyingfish Fisheries Terms of Reference

The fourwing flyingfish (*Hirundichthys affinis*) fishery is the single most important small pelagic fishery in the southern Lesser Antilles. It is a shared resource, which is exploited by seven different States (Barbados, Dominica, Martinique, Grenada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago) producing annual landings of about 3000-4000 metric tons<sup>1</sup>. With expanding fleet capacity and limited cooperation among the States exploiting the flyingfish, there is concern that the resource may become overfished. The States participating in the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME) Project agreed that strengthening governance and management arrangements for the flyingfish should be undertaken as one of the case studies under the Project. The CRFM was therefore contracted to implement this Case Study which will, firstly, review and complete the trans-boundary diagnostic analysis (TDA) for the fishery, and secondly, prepare a SAP which should identify the policy, legal and institutional reforms and investments needed to address the priority trans-boundary problems identified.

The purpose of this initiative is to establish a Ministerial Sub-Committee to provide policy direction and supervise the development of cooperatives arrangements for improved governance and management of the flyingfish fishery to achieve optimum sustainable social and economic benefits for the people of the region.

### Establishment of Sub-Committee

The Ministerial Council hereby establishes a Sub-Committee on Flyingfish pursuant to Rule 10(I) of the CRFM Rules of Procedure. The Terms of Reference, including, *inter alia*, objective, members, and functions of the Sub-committee are provided below.

### Objective

The objective of the Sub-committee is to contribute, through cooperation and consultation, to the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of the shared flyingfish resources, and protect and safeguard the ecosystems in which they are found in the Eastern Caribbean.

### Membership

The Ministerial Sub-Committee on Flyingfish shall consist of:

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<sup>1</sup> See paragraph 51, page 18 of the UNDP, UNOPS, Project Document, PIMS 2193 – Sustainable Management of the Shared Living Marine Resources of the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME) and Adjacent Regions.



- (a) CRFM Member States with a real interest in the flyingfish fishery<sup>2</sup>; and
- (b) Any other Caribbean States or Territories having a real interest in the flyingfish fishery<sup>3</sup>, subject to the agreement of the CRFM Ministerial Council.

### Functions

1. The functions of the Flyingfish Sub-Committee shall be to make ~~policy decisions~~recommendations for policy decisions to ensure long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of the shared flyingfish resources, and protect and safeguard the ecosystems in which they are found in the Eastern Caribbean.
2. The Sub-Committee shall make ~~the policy~~recommendations for policy decisions mentioned at paragraph (1) above on the basis of scientific advice provided by the Forum, CRFM/FAO/WECAFC Working Group, UWI, or other competent technical or scientific body.
3. Without prejudice to the generality of paragraphs 1 and 2, the Sub-Committee shall:
  - (1) ~~Adopt Review the~~ proposals and make recommendations for joint action by Member States and other Cooperating States or Territories in the Caribbean designed to achieve sustainable use of the flyingfish resources;
  - (2) Regularly review reports and recommendations submitted to it regarding the status of the flyingfish stocks and actions required for their conservation and management;
  - (3) Provide a forum for Member States and other Cooperating States or Territories in the Caribbean to discuss and agree make recommendations on proposed joint conservation and management measures to ensure long-term sustainable use of the flyingfish resources;
  - (4) Provide a forum for Member States and other Cooperating States or Territories in the Caribbean to discuss and propose agree harmonized monitoring, control and inspection scheme to ensure compliance with conservation and management measures;
  - (5) Review compliance with conservation and management measures adopted by the Ministerial Council Sub-Committee or Member States and make such recommendations to the Member States or and to take action as may be necessary to ensure their effectiveness;

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<sup>2</sup> The CRFM Member States with a real interest in the flyingfish are: Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, Grenada, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Dominica (see CLME Flyingfish Research Proposal).

<sup>3</sup> In addition to the six (6) CRFM Members mentioned above, Martinique is also deemed to have a real interest in the fisheries. The intention is, therefore, to provide an opportunity for Martinique to participate in the deliberations of the Sub-Committee if it so desires, subject to the negotiations of a cooperation agreement between the French Islands and the CRFM

- (6) Review the implementation of measures for monitoring, control, surveillance and enforcement adopted by the [Ministerial Council](#) or Member States and make such recommendations to Member States or take action as may be appropriate to ensure their effectiveness;
  - (7) Monitor and review information pertaining to IUU fishing and recommend actions to be taken by Member States and other Cooperating States or Territories in the Caribbean to discourage and eliminate such activities;
  - (8) Refer to the Secretariat, Forum, Scientific Meeting (including the Coastal Pelagic Working Group and other bodies), or other competent bodies such as FAO/WECAFC or UWI, as may be necessary from time to time, [in order to achieve its objectives. any question pertaining to the scientific basis for the decisions it may need to take concerning the flyingfish resources, the impact of fishing on the resources, and the protection and safeguarding of the ecosystem in which these resources are found;](#)
  - (9) Receive and consider reports, proposals and recommendations from the Forum or CRFM Secretariat (or other competent bodies) ~~regarding the conservation, management and sustainable use of the flyingfish resources;~~
  - (10) Perform such other tasks as it may consider necessary or as directed by the [Ministerial Council](#) or Member States to ensure sustainable development, conservation and effective management of the flyingfish fishery; and
  - (11) Submit reports of its work to the Ministerial Council.
4. In carrying out its functions, the Sub-Committee shall be guided by the CRFM Agreement 2002, Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas 2001, and relevant principles of international fisheries law found in the 1982 UN Law of the Sea Convention, the 1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement, ~~and~~ the 1995 FAO Code of Conduct on responsible fisheries and associated instruments [and any other relevant agreement to which the Member States are signatories-](#)

### **Meetings**

The Sub-Committee may meet during the Annual Meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council or on other occasions as deemed necessary to fulfill its mandate.

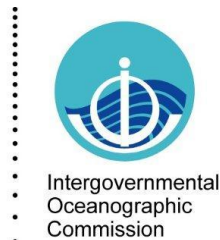
### **Rules of Procedures**

The Rules of Procedure of the CRFM Ministerial Council shall apply to the Flyingfish Sub-Committee pursuant to Rule 10(2) of the CRFM Rules of Procedure.



# UPDATE ON CLME PROJECT

## Project Overview & Strategic Action Programme







## **CLME Project:**

- 4 year (May 2009 – July 2013)
- GEF funding – US\$7 million
- Co-financing – US\$47.8 million

## **Goal:**

Sustainable provision of goods and services by the shared living marine resources in the Wider Caribbean Region through robust cooperative governance

## **Overall Objective:**

Sustainable management of the shared Living Marine Resources of the Caribbean LME and adjacent areas through an integrated management approach that will meet the WSSD target for sustainable fisheries

## 1) **Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis**

- technical-scientific analyses that identify transboundary problems (unsustainable fisheries, habitat degradation, pollution)

## 2) **Causal Chain Analyses**

- Link problems to direct, intermediate and root causes
- Facilitate the identification of solutions

## 3) **Strategic Action Programme**

- Identify the policy, legal and institutional reforms and investments needed to achieve goal
- 10 year SAP being developed

## COMMON ROOT CAUSES

1. Weak governance (including legal & institutional frameworks, inadequate environmental quality standards)
2. Limited human and financial resources
3. Inadequate data and information (inadequate knowledge)
4. Inadequate public awareness & participation
5. Inadequate consideration of value of ecosystem goods & services
6. Population and cultural pressures
7. Trade and external dependency (high dependence on fish for income and export earnings)



PILOT PROJECT OR CASE STUDY	LEAD AGENCY
1. Regional Governance Framework case Study	CERMES/UWI
2. Spiny Lobster Pilot Project	<b>OSPESCA</b>
3. Flyingfish Case Study	<b>CRFM</b>
4. Large Pelagics Case Study	CRFM
5. Reef Fisheries & Biodiversity Pilot Project	<b>UNEP</b>
6. Shrimp & Groundfish Case Study	<b>FAO</b>
7. Information Management System/ Regional Ecosystem Monitoring Programme (IMS/REMP)	<b>IOC/IOCARIBE</b>

## **FLYINGFISH FISHERY**

1. Fourwing flyingfish (*Hirundichthys affinis*)
2. 7 States: Barb., Dom, Gren, Martinique, T&T, SVG
3. Most important small pelagic fishery
4. Landings : 2000 - 4000 MT
5. Boats: 1700 (mainly small to medium)
6. Socio-economically important
7. US\$15 million in Barbados
8. Cultural icon

## OBJECTIVE

- Effective sub-regional governance and management framework
- Policy cycles based on Ecosystem Based principles that:
  - Involve all key stakeholders
  - Utilize the best available information
  - Precautionary
  - Sub-regional management plan
  - deliberative and decision-making body

# 10 Year Strategic Action Programme

LONG TERM VISION

OBJECTIVES

Strategic Directions:

- Governance & management of Fisheries
- Safeguarding the marine environment

Strategies & Actions

- Action
- Investments

# Next Steps:

## SAP Endorsement & Implementation

1. Draft was circulated to States 5 Feb 2013
2. Review and consultation process
3. Meeting in Colombia 5-6 March:
  - \* Agreement on Strategies and Action
    - Endorsement by Steering Committee
4. Political endorsement - Signed by Minister
5. GEF funding support for implementation



# Case Study on Eastern Caribbean Flyingfish Fishery & Our proposed SAP

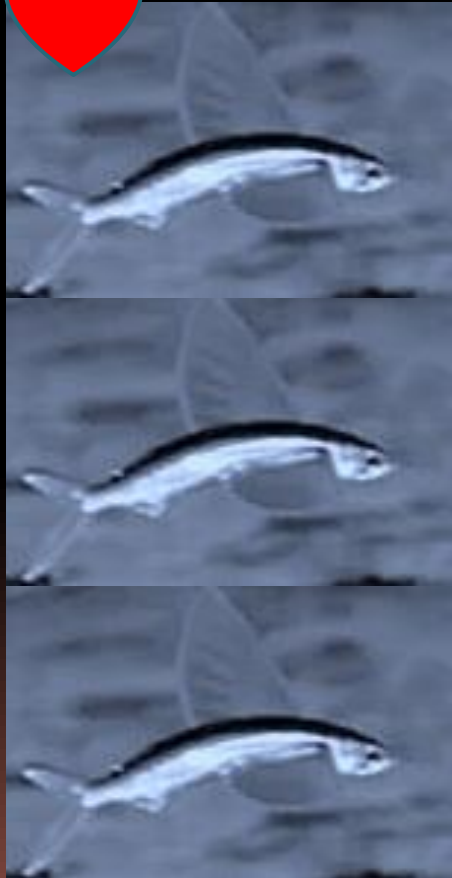


Completed By

The Caribbean Regional  
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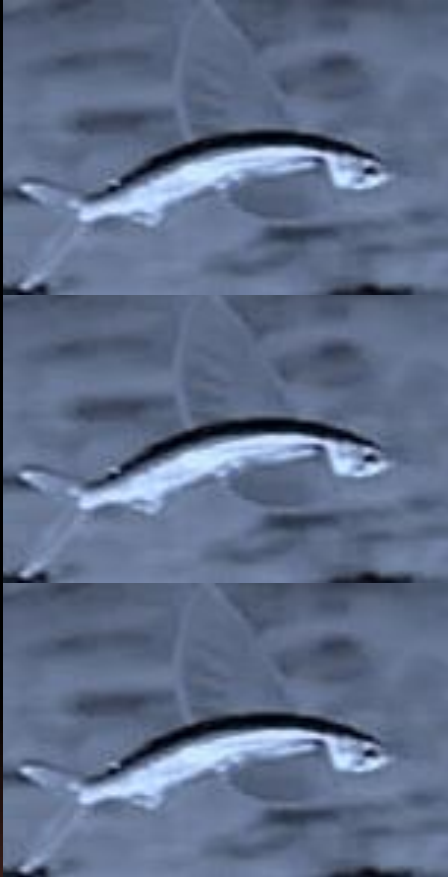


# Some Fishery Notes



- Live in all oceans - tropical & sub-tropical. Enlarged fins allow leaping & gliding over water for long distances.
- Considered good food fish. Marketed fresh/ frozen
- Most important small pelagic fishery in southern eastern Caribbean - directed/ multispecies, multi-gear.
- Early fishery in 1950s (~<1000 t), peaked to almost 5000 t in late 1980s. Recent annual landings ~ 2,000-2,500 t.
- Small fish with big heart - plays its role in tourism
- expanding fleet capacity → overfishing?
- tagging & genetic studies: single stock of fourwing flyingfish in southeastern Caribbean

## Some Fishery Notes : ecosystem linkages

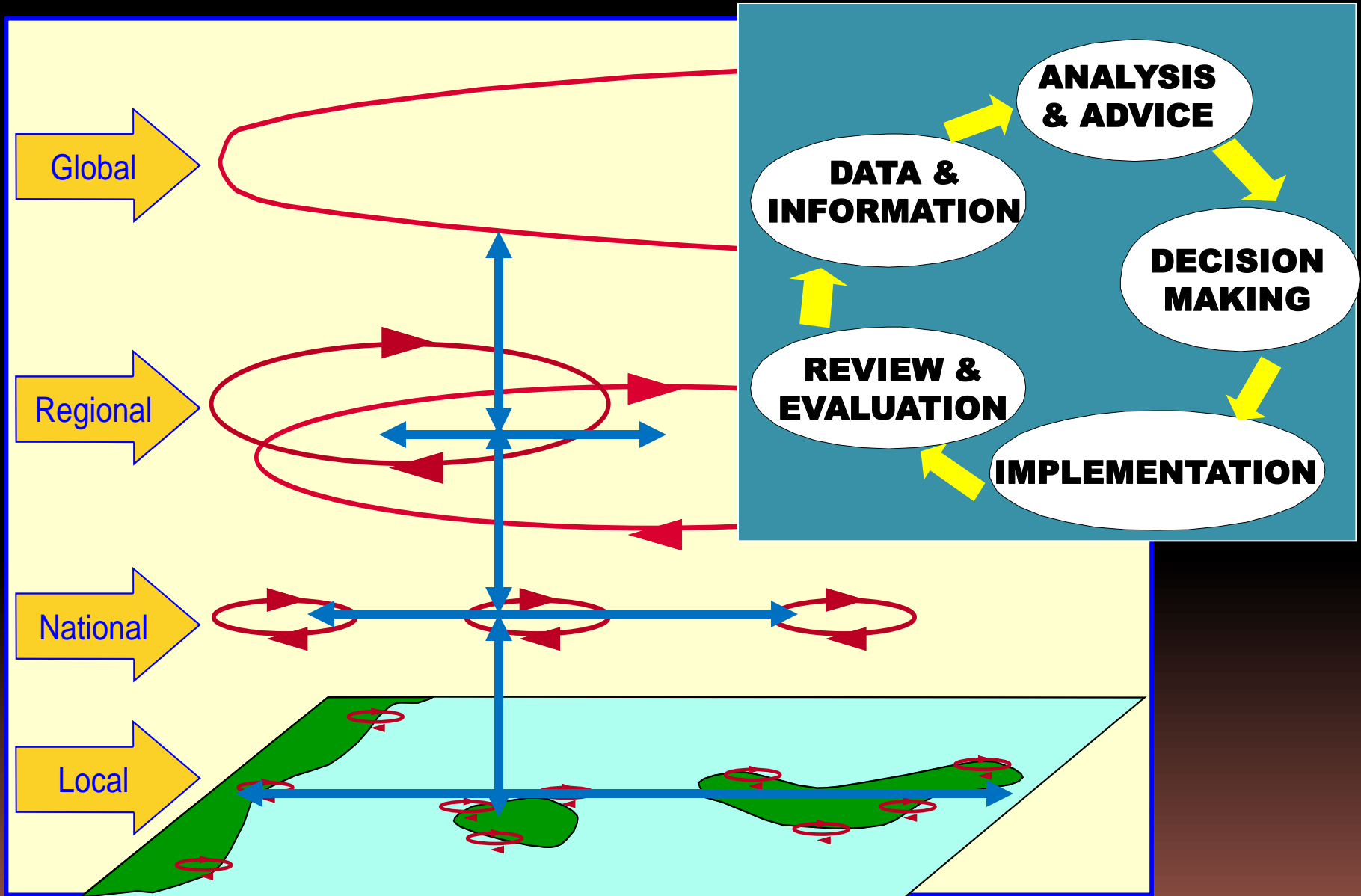


- growing longline fisheries for large pelagics use flyingfish for bait
- flyingfish - important component of pelagic food web
- Dolphinfish & other predators - particularly vulnerable to any substantial decrease in flyingfish abundance
- negative impact of land based human activities on the health of marine ecosystem and fishery resources



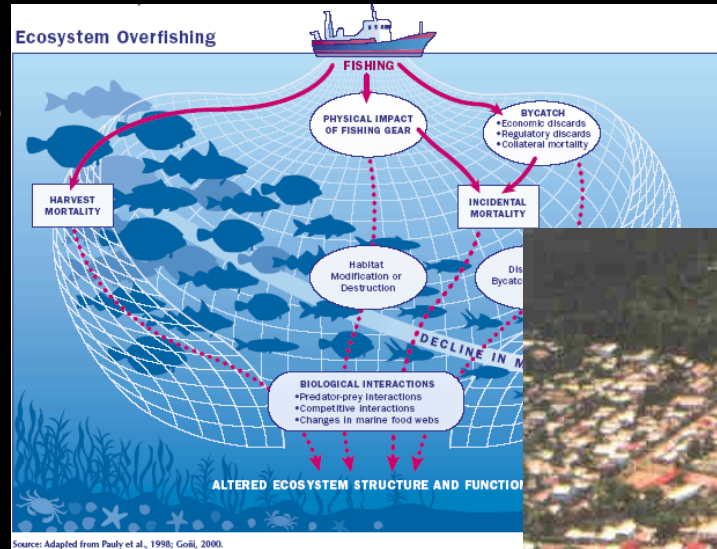
# LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

## A multi-level policy-cycle based framework



# CLME Identified 3 Transboundary Issues

1. Unsustainable exploitation of resources



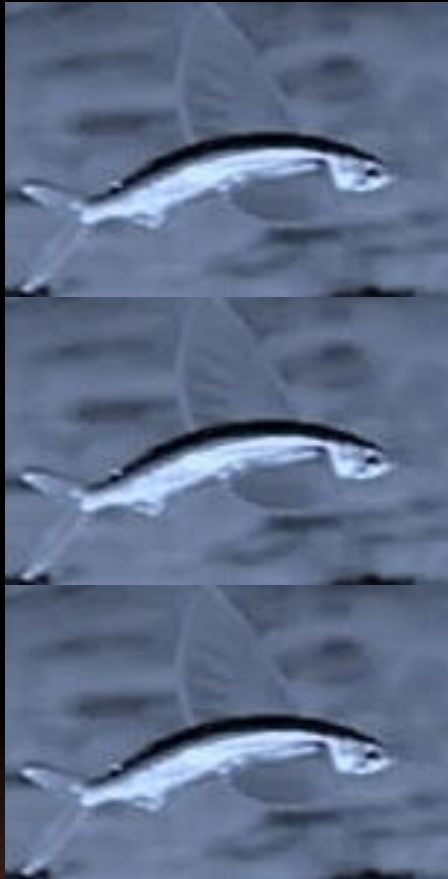
2. Pollution



3. Habitat degradation and community modification



# Flyingfish Case Study - General Objectives



- to fill important knowledge gaps that will contribute to the final Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis, &
- to inform the development of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) and the CLME management and governance framework which will include priority actions for the sustainability of the Eastern Caribbean flyingfish fishery.



# Flyingfish Case Study - TDA & SAP

## TDA

**DATA IMPROVEMENT**

**BROADEN DATA ANALYSIS  
TO PROVIDE ADVICE FOR  
ECOSYSTEM APPROACH TO  
FISHERIES**

## SAP

**POLICY, LEGAL, INSTITUTIONAL  
REVIEW**

**STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS**

**CRFM-FRANCE MOU**

**REGIONAL NON-BINDING  
DECLARATION**

**STAKEHOLDER VALIDATION MEETINGS**

**PROMOTE CRFM NETWORKING**

**CRFM-WECAFC JOINT MEETING**

**CRFM MINISTERIAL LEVEL MEETINGS**

**CASE STUDY SAP REPORT**



# Flyingfish Case Study Reports

CRFM Fishery Report - 2010

ISSN: 1995-1426



CRFM Fishery Report - 2011

ISSN: 1995-1426



CRFM Fishery Report - 2012



Report of St. Vincent

Volume 1

Report of Eighth Annual CRFM Scientific Meeting, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, 2012



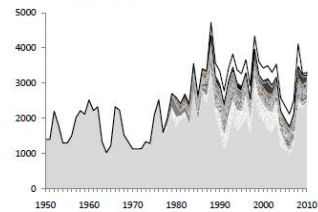
CRFM Technical

CRFM Secretariat Belize 2012

THE CRFM META-DATA BASE CONTRIBUTION TO THE CARIBBEAN LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM (CLME) PROJECT INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (IMS) COMPONENT

CRFM Secretariat Belize

Report of the First Meeting of the Ministerial Sub-Committee on Flyingfish in the Eastern Caribbean



18 - 19 June 2012  
Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

CRFM Secretariat Belize 2012



ISSN: 1995-1124

CRFM Technical & Advisory Document Series  
Number 2012 / 14

## STRATEGIC ACTION PROGRAMME FOR THE EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF FLYINGFISH FISHERIES IN THE CARIBBEAN LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM (CLME)



CRFM Secretariat Belize 2012

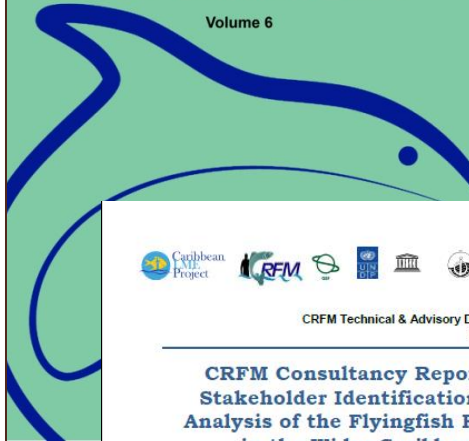


Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism

ISSN: 1995-4843

CRFM RESEARCH PAPER COLLECTION

Volume 6



CRFM Technical & Advisory Document Series  
Number 2012 / 7

## CRFM Consultancy Report on Stakeholder Identification and Analysis of the Flyingfish Fishery in the Wider Caribbean

CRFM



ISSN: 1995-1124

CRFM Technical & Advisory Document Series  
Number 2012 / 6

## CRFM Consultancy Report on Review of Existing Policy, Legal and Institutional Arrangements for Governance and Management of Flyingfish Fisheries in the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem



CRFM Secretariat Belize  
May 2012



ISSN: 1995-4843

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### VOLUME 2 - Supplement 2

REPORT AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE MINISTERIAL SUB-COMMITTEE ON FLYINGFISH  
18 OCTOBER 2012

**CHAIRPERSON:**

Hon. V. Alfred Gray, M.P.  
Minister of Agriculture, Marine Resources and Local Government  
THE BAHAMAS

**DATE AND VENUE:**

St. John's  
ANTIGUA and BARBUDA

18 OCTOBER 2012

CRFM Secretariat, Belize  
2012

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# CRFM Strategic Action Programme (SAP) proposed for Eastern Caribbean flyingfish

## **BUILDING BLOCK CONCEPTS & DEFINITIONS**

- 1) GOVERNANCE (> FORMAL GOVERNMENT)
- 2) STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS, OBJECTIVES & PRIORITIES  
(COURSE OF ACTION)
- 3) FISHERIES MANAGEMENT (INTEGRATED PROCESS & CYCLE)
- 4) ECOSYSTEM APPROACH TO FISHERIES MANAGEMENT (THE FISH, THE SYSTEM, THE STAKEHOLDERS)
- 5) PRECAUTIONARY APPROACH TO FISHERIES MANAGEMENT  
(UNCERTAINTY IN SCIENCE, MANAGEMENT, ECOSYSTEM RESPONSES)
- 6) POVERTY & VULNERABILITY (POOR IN MANY WAYS, POV. & VUL. LINKED)



# CRFM PROPOSED SAP - flyingfish

## 5 STEPS USED FOR SAP DEVELOPMENT

**STEP 1 - OVERALL VISION**

**STEP 2 - OVERARCHING ECOSYSTEM QUALITY OBJECTIVES (EcoQOs) & SOCIETAL BENEFIT OBJECTIVES (SBOs)**

**STEP 3 - BROAD INTERVENTIONS, STRATEGIES, TARGETS, INDICATORS, INVESTMENTS, TIMEFRAMES, COSTS & RESPONSIBILITIES**

**STEP 4 - SPECIFIC INTERVENTIONS/ REFORMS**

**STEP 5 - FOR EACH SPECIFIC INTERVENTION, ALLOCATE PRIORITY RANKING, TIMEFRAME, COSTS & RESPONSIBLE PARTIES**

## STEP 1 - OVERALL VISION

Healthy marine ecosystems (THE WHAT)  
that are adequately valued and  
protected through robust, integrative and  
inclusive governance arrangements  
at local, national, sub-regional and regional  
levels that effectively enable adaptive  
management, (THE HOW)  
which maximizes, in a sustainable manner, the  
provision of goods and services  
in support of enhanced livelihoods and human  
well-being (THE WHY)





# STEP 2 - OVERARCHING OBJECTIVES

	UNSUSTAINABLE EXPLOITATION	HABITAT DEGRADATION AND COMMUNITY MODIFICATION	POLLUTION
<p>EcoQOs</p> <p>Conservation, and restoration where necessary, of the health of the pelagic ecosystem within the WCR.</p>	<p>Protection, and restoration where necessary, of the health and natural balance of exploited fish populations occurring within the marine ecosystem, adopting a precautionary management strategy, as needed.</p>	<p>Conservation, and restoration where necessary, of the natural structure and function of the ecosystem, biological diversity, and ecosystem resilience, adopting a precautionary management strategy, as needed.</p>	<p>Conservation, and restoration where necessary, of the health of the aquatic environment, with emphasis on guaranteeing agreed standards of water and habitat quality.</p>
<p><b>SBOs</b></p> <p><b>Provision of goods and services</b> by the pelagic ecosystem such that it <b>contributes to societal development needs</b> of the WCR, and to <b>preservation of the associated aesthetic, traditional, health, educational and scientific values.</b></p>	<p><u>Sustainable and optimal use</u> of living marine resources, <b>for meeting the region's food and nutrition security needs, and other social and economic benefits</b> associated with such exploitation.</p>	<p><u>Responsible and sustainable management of pelagic ecosystem goods and services</u>, <b>for fulfilling social and economic development needs</b>, while also <b>preserving the full aesthetic, traditional, cultural, health, educational and scientific values</b> of such goods and services.</p>	<p><b>Fulfilment of social and economic development</b> objectives, through <u>responsible management of environmental health</u>, necessary for <b>preventing risks to human health and well-being.</b></p>
<p>Strategic directions</p> <p>Establishment and implementation of cooperative and cost-effective governance and fisheries management arrangements that are fully supported, well informed and equipped to implement ecosystem based management</p>	<p>Establishment and implementation of cooperative and cost-effective governance and fisheries management arrangements that are fully supported, well informed, and equipped to implement the ecosystem approach to fisheries management</p>	<p>Establishment and implementation of cooperative and cost-effective arrangements for fully supported and well-informed sustainable and diverse social and economic development and management planning and decision-making</p>	<p>Establishment and implementation of cooperative and cost-effective arrangements for fully supported and well-informed management of environmental health, and for sustaining its contribution to human health and well-being</p>

## 2 BROAD INTERVENTIONS IDENTIFIED:

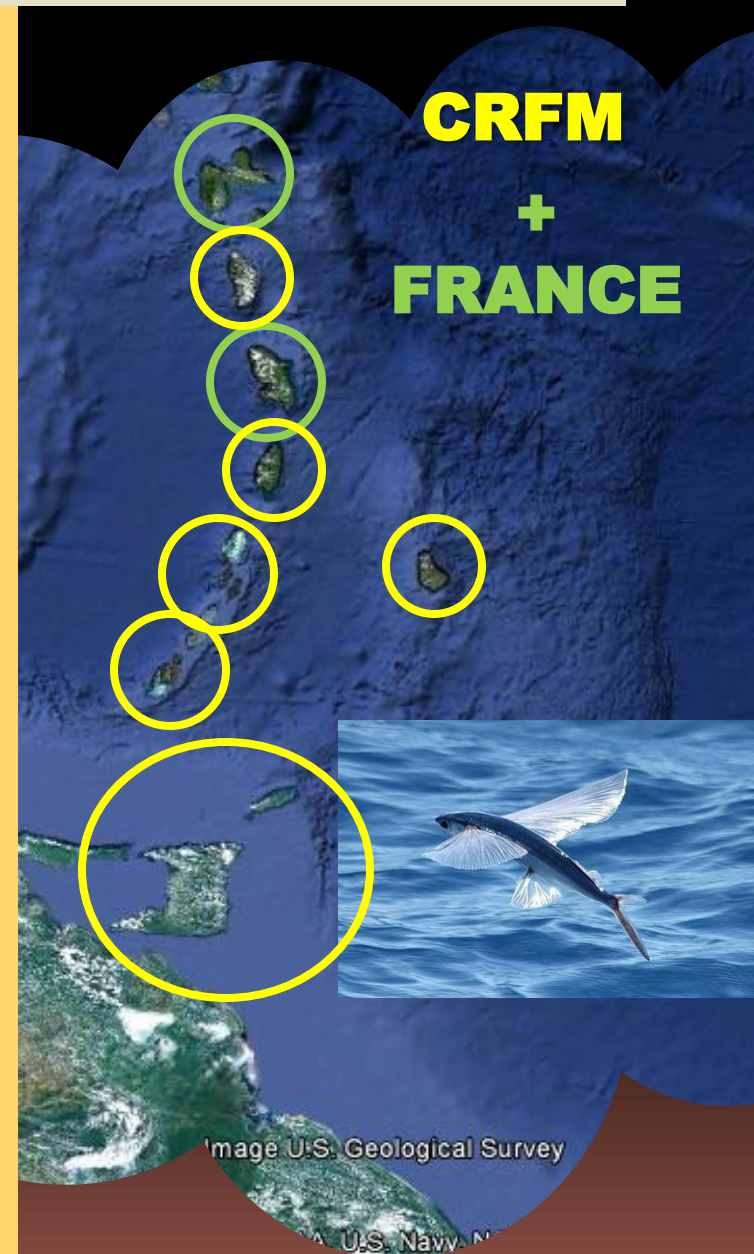
1. SUB-REGIONAL ECOSYSTEM APPROACH TO FISHERIES (EAF) GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENT.
2. NATIONAL LEVEL PARALLEL TO (1) ABOVE (NATIONAL SECTORAL COMMITTEES)



## STEP 3 - BROAD INTERVENTIONS (2)

### EACH BROAD INTERVENTION ANALYSED:

1. STRATEGY - **CRFM+FRANCE, NATIONAL COMMITTEES (NICS)**
2. TARGETS - **REGIONAL/ NATIONAL CYCLES, DATA & INFO SYSTEM, PARTICIPATORY SYSTEM**
3. INDICATORS - **COMPLETED CYCLES**
4. INVESTMENTS- **LEGISLATION, DATA, NETWORKS**
5. TIMEFRAMES - **1-3 YEARS**
6. COSTS - **SOME DONOR HELP**
7. RESPONSIBILITIES - **CRFM, WECAFC, COUNTRIES, FISHERIES DEPARTMENTS, STAKEHOLDERS**



# STEP 4 - BROAD→SPECIFIC INTERVENTIONS

## 1. REGIONAL:

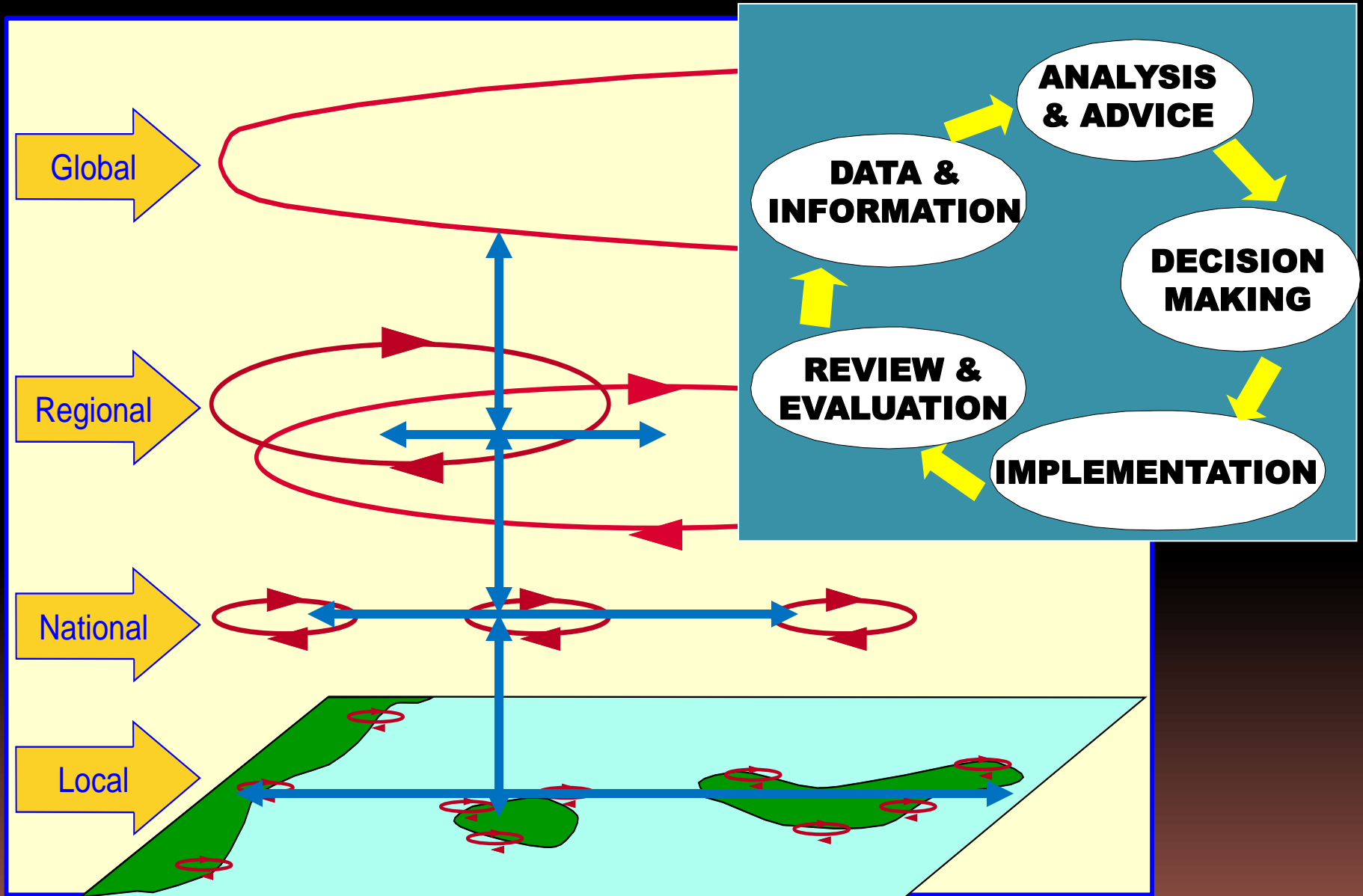
- a. LEGAL & POLICY - E.G. LEGISLATION, BINDING AGREEMENT,
- b. MANAGEMENT & CONSERVATION - E.G. MANAGEMENT PLAN, STRENGTHEN MONITORING, CONTROL & SURVEILLANCE (MCS), REGIONAL SCIENTIFIC COLLABORATION
- c. RESEARCH & DATA - E.G. IMPROVE DATA, INFORMATION, RESEARCH (SOCIO-ECONOMIC & ECOLOGICAL)
- d. STAKEHOLDER - STRENGTHEN PARTICIPATORY PROCESSES VIA ACTION LEARNING GROUPS, MENTORING, COMMUNICATION & PARTICIPATION STRATEGY

## 2. NATIONAL:

- a. LEGAL & POLICY - LEGISLATION, BILATERAL & MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS (MCS), HARMONIZE RELATED LEGISLATION
- b. MANAGEMENT, DATA & RESEARCH - MANAGEMENT PLANS, DATA & INFORMATION IMPROVEMENT & EXPANSION (CATCH, LICENSING & REGISTRATION), IMPROVED DATA ANALYSIS, EXPANDED FISHERIES EXTENSION (EDUCATION)
- c. STAKEHOLDER - NATIONAL PARALLELS TO REGIONAL EFFORT ABOVE

# A REMINDER OF CLME GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

## A multi-level policy-cycle based framework





# FOR MORE INFORMATION:



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## STRATEGIC ACTION PROGRAMME FOR THE EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF FLYINGFISH FISHERIES IN THE CARIBBEAN LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM (CLME)



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CRFM Secretariat  
Belize 2012

# **Draft 2012 Sub-regional Management Plan for Eastern Caribbean Flyingfish**



# Background-Development of FMP

- ▶ **Extensive research process - from the late 1980s and involved numerous scientific studies, stock assessments, workshops and meetings.**
- ▶ **Many contributors - UWI, WECAFC Ad Hoc Flyingfish Working Group of the Eastern Caribbean, CRFM/CLME Case Study.**
- ▶ **FAO/ WECAFC drafted a regional plan in 2008**





# Developments since last regional plan drafted in 2008

- ▶ **Common Fisheries Policy (LAC/ Heads of Government)**
- ▶ **Castries Declaration on Illegal, Unreported & Unregulated Fishing (IUU)**
- ▶ **CLME Project – CRFM flyingfish case study (TDA and SAP components)**



# CRFM/WECAFC 2012 draft plan

- ▶ **Considered latest science & stakeholder inputs (CLME)**
- ▶ **Refined interpretation of biological, ecological, social objectives (operational objectives, indicators, reference points)**
- ▶ **Considered issues & constraints facing fishery**
- ▶ **Considered opportunities**
- ▶ **Considered ongoing statistics & research needs**
- ▶ **Considered legal and institutional arrangements**



# Multiple management objectives (the What & the Why)

- ▶ **Biological: sustained resource** → **sustained catch throughout area** → **catch rates, landings** → **long term average**
- ▶ **Ecological: sustained ecosystem health**
- ▶ **Socio-economic: optimal use for long-term benefit** → **optimal utilization** → **achieve fish quality standards** → **health & market data** → **quality & safety standards**



# Stock status & management advice

**Stock status - Eastern Caribbean flyingfish was not overfished up to 2010, but remains at risk under the current open access arrangement**

## **Proposed measures for action (the how)**

- ❑ **Authorized (limited) entry system**
- ❑ **Total catch trigger point of 5000 t**
- ❑ **Precautionary measure - 2-year freeze on fishing capacity**



# Also proposes the following

1. **Improving & harmonizing data collection and analysis**
2. **Improving & harmonizing vessel licensing & registration**
3. **Establishment of a sub-regional flyingfish catch and effort database**
4. **Establishment of a sub-regional flyingfish vessel registry database**
5. **Approaching France for formal cooperation (to secure involvement of Martinique)**
6. **Improved control and surveillance & combating IUU fishing**
7. **Promotion of fishing access agreements between and among states.**



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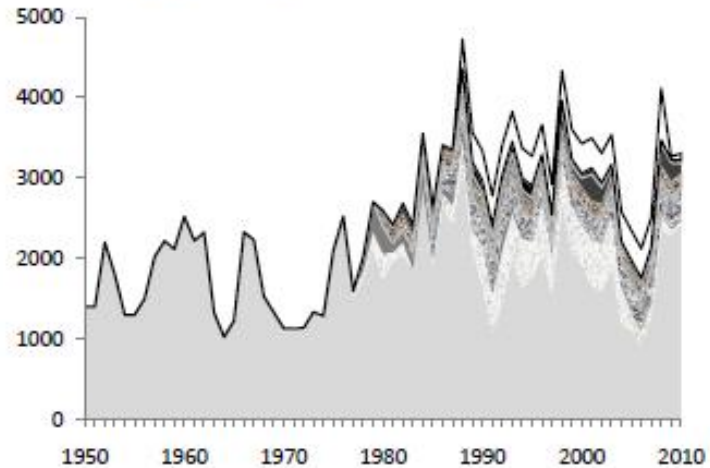
# For further information



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## Report of the First Meeting of the CRFM / WECAFC Working Group on Flyingfish in the Eastern Caribbean



18 - 19 June 2012  
Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

CRFM Secretariat  
Belize 2012