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PROJECT FACT SHEET

ECOSYSTEM-BASED ADAPTATION (EBA) FACILITY

Adapting to a New Reality: Managing Responses to Influxes of Sargassum Seaweed in the Eastern Caribbean as Ecosystem Hazards and Opportunities (SargAdapt)

Project duration December 2019 - June 2023

Countries Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Total project costs \$1,296,093

EbA Facility grant \$981,393

Match funding \$314,700

All currency is stated in USD.

Lead organisation Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies at the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus (UWI-CERMES)

Partners Informal collaborations with Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI), The University of North Carolina Wilmington, St. Georges University, Grenada, Marine Spatial Information Solutions



PROJECT SUMMARY

Since 2011, large pelagic sargassum influxes driven by climate change and ocean eutrophication have damaged Caribbean marine ecosystems, public health, and coastal livelihoods. The SargAdapt project, implemented by CERMES, supported 10 coastal communities across Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to manage and adapt to these influxes. The project strengthened knowledge, community capacity, and regional collaboration while promoting livelihood-based uses of sargassum. Despite COVID-19 disruptions, SargAdapt demonstrated high replicability, with approaches adopted in subsequent Caribbean initiatives.





Photo by CERMES.

KEY IMPACT & INDICATORS



402 individuals supported in climate adaptation

66 knowledge products produced and published

50 stakeholders trained in monitoring across five countries

18 Sargassum Outlook Bulletin volumes distributed

2 stakeholders networks established

ACTIVITIES AND AREAS OF WORK

- Conduct stakeholder analysis and develop a targeted SargAdapt communication strategy
- Improve access to sargassum knowledge through an open platform and user-friendly guidance materials
- Train stakeholders in sargassum monitoring, safe removal, and sustainable use
- Establish networks and partnerships to support ongoing collaboration and self-organization
- Produce a sub-regional Sargassum Outlook Bulletin with sustained forecasting capacity
- Implement pilot Sargassum-Smart initiatives to promote innovative and livelihood-based uses
- Strengthen institutional frameworks to scale up sargassum management at national and regional levels

CARIBBEAN BIODIVERSITY FUND

The Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF) is a regional umbrella environmental fund dedicated to sustaining nature and improving lives through innovative financing solutions. The CBF through its three strategic programs: Conservation Finance, Climate Change, and Nature-based Economies collaborate with governments, communities, and development partners across the Caribbean region.

This project was financed by the CBF's EbA Facility with support from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Climate Action, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMUKN) through the International Climate Initiative (IKI) and KfW.

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Caribbean Biodiversity Fund

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