



Subregional exchange for the Caribbean on the restoration of forests and other ecosystems

Castries, Saint Lucia – 9-13 March 2019

Context: The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), adopted at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992, is the main global agreement regarding biodiversity, with near-universal membership. Its provisions are implemented at the national level, following 10-year plans and targets to achieve the 2050 Vision of “Living in Harmony with Nature”. In 2016, the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the CBD, in decision XIII/5, adopted the Short-Term Action Plan on Ecosystem Restoration (STAPER), a flexible framework of 24 steps for the implementation of ecosystem restoration at the national scale.

In the same decision, the COP requested the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to support the efforts of Parties in making use of the STAPER by enabling capacity-building and supporting the use of tools in collaboration with relevant partners and initiatives, including by implementing the FERI.

This workshop is one of a series organized by the CBD Secretariat as part of the implementation of the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative (FERI) with the generous financial assistance of the Korea Forest Service of the Government of the Republic of Korea. The overall aim of the workshop is to support Parties in planning and carrying out national plans on ecosystem restoration, guided by the Short-Term Action Plan on Ecosystem Restoration, with a focus on efforts taken in forest and other ecosystems to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5, 14 and 15 and related targets.

Invited parties: *Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.*

Expected outcomes:

- Participants have a clear understanding of the distinction between the related concepts of ecological restoration, ecosystem restoration and forest landscape restoration and their potential to contribute to environmental and socio-economic national objectives.
- Participants are aware of the international frameworks, goals and targets related to restoration
- Participants understand the value and process for setting ‘SMART’ targets on forest ecosystem restoration that provide a clear and quantifiable contribution to international goals and targets.



- Participants' knowledge has increased with regards to activities of the Short-Term Action Plan on Ecosystem Restoration such as:
 - Assessment for opportunities for ecosystem restoration (systematic spatial planning, cost and benefits of restoration)
 - Choice, design and implementation of a range of restoration interventions
 - Ways and means to mobilize domestic and international public and private resources, engaging different stakeholders and incentivizing long term actions in ecosystem restoration
 - Monitoring of ecosystem restoration

- A regional understanding emerges from the exchange among participants with regards to:
 - Assessment of progress in the planning and implementation of national forest restoration plans
 - Identification of common barriers, challenges and bottlenecks to forest ecosystem and forest landscape restoration among countries of the region
 - Availability and relevance of global and regional initiatives, tools and resources on forest ecosystem restoration;
 - Benefits of ecosystem restoration to ecological, social and economic sustainability

Proposed agenda:

Mon 9 March Taking stock of national restoration plans and targets

8h30 – 9h00

Registration

9h00 – 10h15

Opening session

Welcoming remarks (5-7 min each):

- Ministry of Education, Innovation, Gender Relations and Sustainable Development of St Lucia
- Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Natural Resources and Co-operatives of St Lucia
- Korea Forest Service
- Convention on Biological Diversity
- The Caribbean Community (CARICOM)
- Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States

Session 1 – Setting the scene

Presentation: Ecosystem restoration in the context of the CBD: reflection on progress under Aichi Biodiversity Target 15, outlook for restoration under the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and the Short Term Action Plan on Ecosystem Restoration (20 min)

Lisa Janishevski, CBD Secretariat

Presentation: Restoration in the Caribbean - results from the pre-workshop questionnaire and review of restoration commitments in the sub-region (20 min)

10h15 – 10h45

Coffee break

10h45 – 11h45

Review and adoption of the agenda, questions on the presentations from the Setting the Scene session (40 min)

Tour-de-table of participants and their expectations (20 min)

Designation of a participant for the recap on Tuesday

11h45 – 12h30

Interactive exercise – participants map progress in their country under the various steps of the STAPER (30 min)

Plenary discussion: report back and discussion from the interactive exercise (15 min)

12h30 – 13h30

Lunch



13h30 – 15h00

Session 2 – Forest ecosystem restoration in the context of global goals and targets

Presentation: Ecosystem restoration as a cross-cutting issue across international goals and targets and a primer on restoration definitions (15 min) – *Blaise Bodin, CBD Secretariat*

Plenary discussion: Restoration definitions and data based on the responses to the questionnaire (30 min)

Presentation: 2 countries, showcasing a good example of alignment between national targets on restoration (30 min)

Plenary discussion: Questions on the presentations and discussion on the results of the exercise (15 min)

15h00 – 15h30

Coffee break

15h30 – 16h30

Presentations by CARICOM and OECS on regional strategies for ecosystem restoration and biodiversity (20 min)

Group discussion: Lessons learned from the Caribbean on the implementation of Aichi Biodiversity Target 15 and ways to improve alignment between restoration-related commitments and contributions at the national level (20 min)

Plenary discussion: Review of key messages from Day 1 (20 min)

Tue 10 March

Planning for ecosystem restoration

9h00 – 9h15

Recap of Day 1 (by one of the participants)
Nomination of a participant to do the report back of Day 2

9h15 – 10h15

Session 3 – Assessing the costs and benefits of ecosystem restoration and the potential for natural regeneration

Costs and benefits of ecosystem restoration: Why assess them and how? – The Economics of Ecosystem Restoration (TEER) (20 min)
Mr. Blaise Bodin, SCBD

Assessing the potential for Natural Regeneration, a cost-efficient way of planning for ecosystem restoration (10 min)
Mr. Renato Crouzeilles, IIS

Q&A (30 min)

10h15 – 10h45

Intro to the interactive exercise on costs and benefits of restoration (10 min)



Group exercise: using the TEER methodology for data collection on restoration costs and benefits, Participants break out into groups and identify the cost of a specific restoration interventions in their national context and list potential benefits and ways in which they can be measured (20 minutes)

10h45 – 11h15	Coffee break
11h15 – 11h45	Report back from the groups (10 minutes each)
11h45 – 12h30	Introduction of the objectives of the IIS project in collaboration with CBD and FERI on developing a decision support tool for systematic spatial planning of forest restoration (10 min) <i>Mr. Renato Crouzeilles, IIS</i> Fundamentals of systematic spatial planning – (15 min) <i>Ibid</i> Q&A (20 min)
12h30 – 13h30	Lunch
13h30 – 14h30	Introduction to the group exercise – (10 min) <u>Group exercise:</u> Systematic planning for restoration using spatially explicit data (50min)
14h30 – 15h00	Systematic spatial planning for ecosystem restoration to maximize carbon and biodiversity benefits and minimize costs: a case in the Atlantic Forest of Brazil (15 min) <i>Mr. Renato Crouzeilles, IIS</i> Q&A (15 min)
15h00 – 15h30	Coffee break
15h30 – 16h30	Introduction to the group exercise (10 min) <u>Group exercise:</u> Compare restoration scenarios and levels of ambitions using simulated data about biodiversity benefits, carbon benefits and total restoration costs (30 min) <u>Plenary discussion:</u> Report back from the groups (20 min)
16h30 – 17h00	Listing of key messages from Day 2 (10 min) Presentation on the field trip on 11 March (20 min)

Wed 11 March Implementation of ecosystem restoration

Field trip to Soufriere 4 stops and talks from experts *in situ* on good practice in the design and implementation of a range of restoration interventions

8h00	Departure from hotel
10h00	Sabee – Restoration context: <i>Low percentage vegetation cover and landslides, restoration with shrubs</i>
10h45	Fond St Jacques – Restoration context: <i>Agroforestry</i>
11h30	Edmund Forest – Restoration context: <i>Regeneration of indigenous speicesin post hurricane context</i>
12h00	Migny – Restoration context: <i>Planting on farm site</i> <i>Further details to be provided on the Tuesday</i>

Thur 12 March Selection of restoration interventions and their monitoring

9h00 – 9h15	Recap of Day 2 and Day 3 (by one of the participants)		
9h15 – 10h00	Session 5 – Restoration clinics (1/3) - Presentation by each of the experts on their area of expertise in restoration approaches		
	(10 minutes presentation + 5 min clarifying questions each)		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnering with Nature to harness the potential of natural regeneration, including in post-disaster contexts – <i>Tamara Heartsill Scalley, US Forest Service</i> • Agroforestry for livelihoods, biodiversity and climate benefits – tbc: <i>Carl M. Augustin (St. Lucia)</i> • The importance of species and genetic diversity in forest restoration – <i>Claus Eckelmann, FAO</i> 		
10h00 – 10h45	Session 5 - Restoration clinics (2/3)		
	Participants break out into groups for roundtable discussions on the three topics presented at the previous session (each participant to choose up to two topics)		
	Natural Reg.	Agroforestry	Spec. Diversity
Facilitation:	<i>C. Eckelmann</i>	<i>C. M. Augustin</i>	<i>T. Heartsill</i>
Note-taking:	<i>R. Crouzeilles</i>	<i>L. Janishevski</i>	<i>B. Bodin</i>
	<u>Group discussions:</u>		

- Each participant to present their expectations with regards to the application of the restoration approach in question
- Experts to provide more details on available restoration techniques and how they may apply to the respective national contexts of participants
- Open discussion and listing of common, challenges, needs and opportunities for the application of the restoration intervention by each group

10h45 – 11h00	Coffee break
11h00 – 11h45	Session 5 - Restoration clinics (3/3) Participants rotate to cover a second topic in the group discussion
11h45 – 12h30	<u>Plenary discussion</u> : Report back from the groups (10 min + 5 min discussion for each group)
12h30 – 13h30	Lunch
13h30 – 15h00	Session 6 - Monitoring of restoration <u>Presentation</u> : Identifying priorities and indicators for monitoring forest and landscape restoration (15 min + 15 minutes for questions) <i>John Brandt, WRI</i> <u>Interactive exercise 1/2</u> : participants to draft outline of indicator framework for restoration at national or project level following the steps of the guide – (60 min)
15h00 – 15h30	Coffee break
15h30 – 17h00	<u>Interactive exercise 2/2</u> (60 min) <u>Plenary discussion</u> : Report back from the groups and listing of key messages for Day 4 (30 min) Listing of key messages

Fri 13 March **Finance for restoration**

9h00 – 9h15	Recap of Day 4 (by one of the participants)
9h15 – 10h30	Session 7 - Finance for restoration Panel discussion on accessing finance for restoration in the Caribbean (45 min).



Participants: *Natalie Boodram, CANARI; Alfred Prospere, St Lucia (tbc); Teshia Jean Baptiste (CARICOM), tbd (OECS), Claus Eckelmann (FAO), Giles Romulus (GEF Small grants), tbd (Caribbean Biodiversity Fund).*

Plenary discussion (30 min)

10h30 – 11h00	Coffee break
11h00 – 12h00	The path ahead for a regional ambition on ecosystem restoration Outline of key next steps for the definition and effective implementation of ecosystem restoration strategies in the Caribbean (15 min) <i>Remarks by representatives of CARICOM, OECS and St Lucia</i> Session 8 – Restoration project preparation <u>Presentation:</u> concepts of project development (15mn) Based on sub-regional common challenges and needs identified so far through the session, participants divide in groups to work on a project concept note to address a need shared between several countries and identify the most appropriate funding source for it (30 min)
12h00 – 13h00	Lunch
13h00 – 14h30	Session 9 - Plenary discussion Review of key messages from Day 5 on access to finance for ecosystem restoration in the Caribbean Review and discussion of key messages from the workshop
14h00 - 15h30	Closing session Evaluation of the workshop (online) Closing remarks