



CARIBBEAN BLUE ECONOMY: AN OECS PERSPECTIVE



Significance of Oceans to the OECS

Globally Oceans (which cover about 70% of the earth):

- Have **97%** of its water and provides **50%** of its oxygen;
- Absorb **30%** of human-produced carbon dioxide;
- Absorb **93%** of increased global warming since 1970s;
- Buffer ever-worsening impact of storms;
- Main trade medium (**90%** volume, **70%** value);
- Provide **US\$24 trillion** in ecosystem services per year.

Oceans are essential!
No Ocean, no life!

THE UNITED NATIONS Ocean Governance Framework



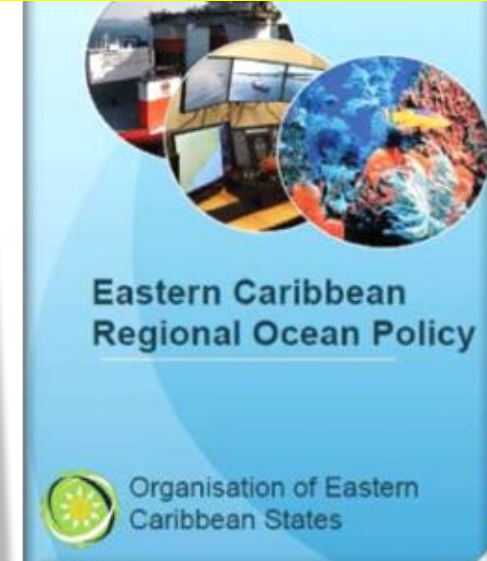
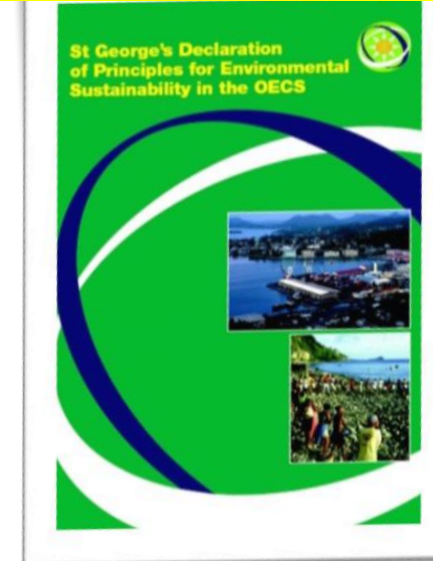
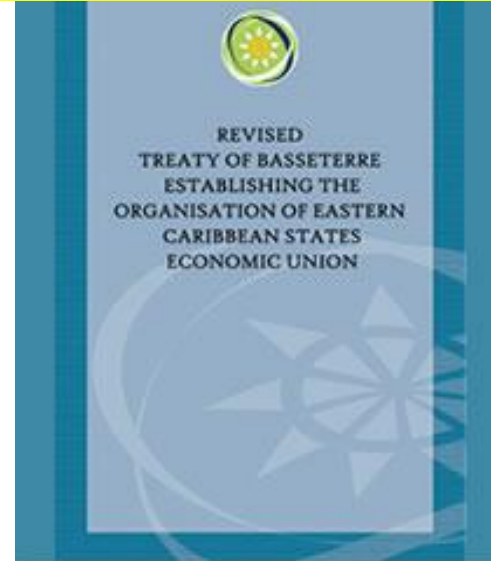
- Policy Framework
- Legal Framework
- Administrative/Institutional Framework
- Implementing Mechanism
- Marine Space
- Shipping
- People at Sea
- Maritime Security

- Marine Science and Technology
- Fisheries Resources
- Marine Genetic Resources
- Marine Biological Diversity
- Non-living Marine Resources
- Protection and Preservation of the Marine Environment
- Climate Change
- Settlement of Disputes

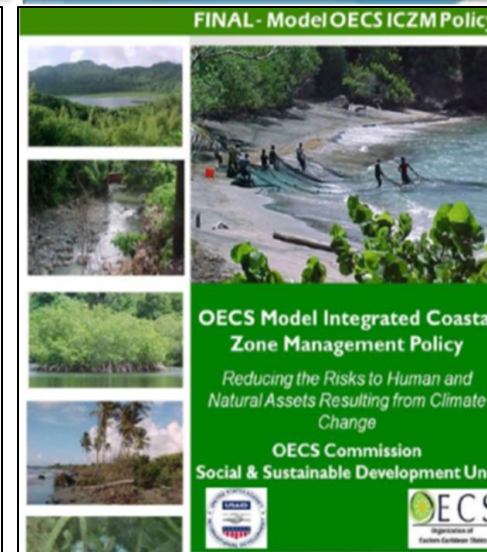
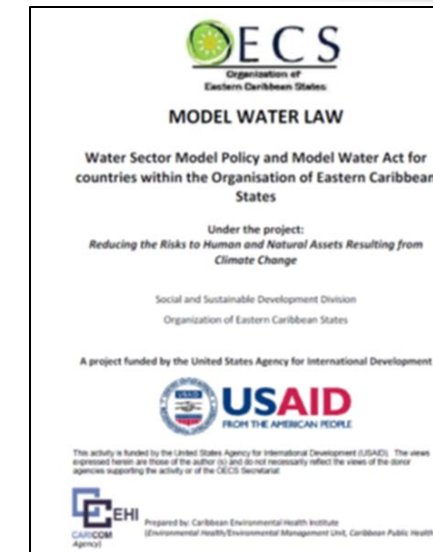
OECS OCEAN GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK – WITHIN ISLAND SYSTEM MANAGEMENT

PROTOCOL: ARTICLE 24 - ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

... to minimize environmental vulnerability, improve environmental management and protect the region's natural resource base for optimal social and economic benefits for Member States.



**ISM Framework
(Island Systems Management)**
- Ridge to Reef to EEZ -



THE BLUE ECONOMY – definition



“A sustainable ocean economy [blue economy] emerges when economic activity is in balance with the long-term capacity of ocean ecosystems to support this activity and remain resilient and healthy.” (Economist Intelligence Unit, 2015)



Caribbean OCEAN Economy

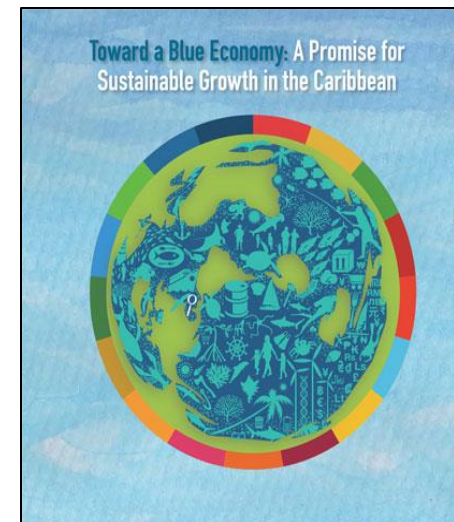
Caribbean Sea (covers 1% of the earth, is a biodiversity hot spot) – blue economy 2012:

- **US\$407Bn = 14-17% of GDP** of the States and Territories (US\$53.17Bn by island States and Territories).

OECS Member States (marine space to land space approx **85:1**).

- The blue economy **employs up to 30% of the labour force** in some Member States.

166 million people live within 100 kilometers of the Caribbean coast



THE CARIBBEAN OCEAN ECONOMY

In 2012 supported:



34 SIDS & territories;



40 Million persons;



**Fisheries US\$5 Bn &
Aquaculture US\$1.9 Bn**



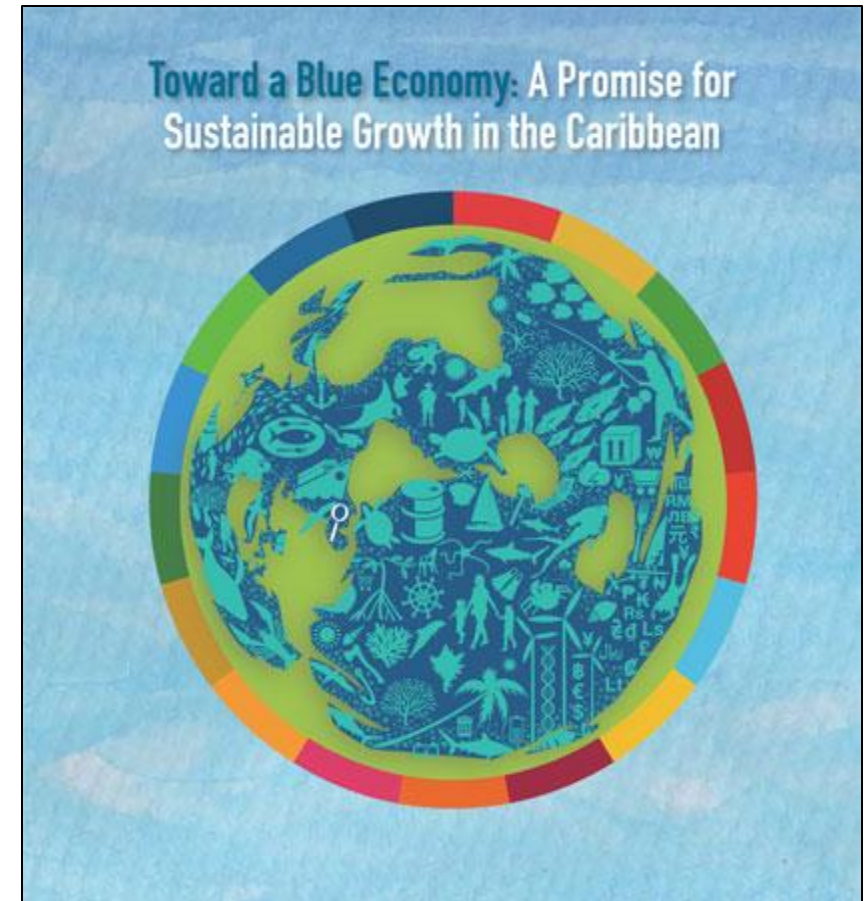
Tourism: US \$47 Bn;



Oil and gas: US \$40 Bn;



Shipping: US \$311 Bn.



Caribbean Region-wide blue economy vision consensus

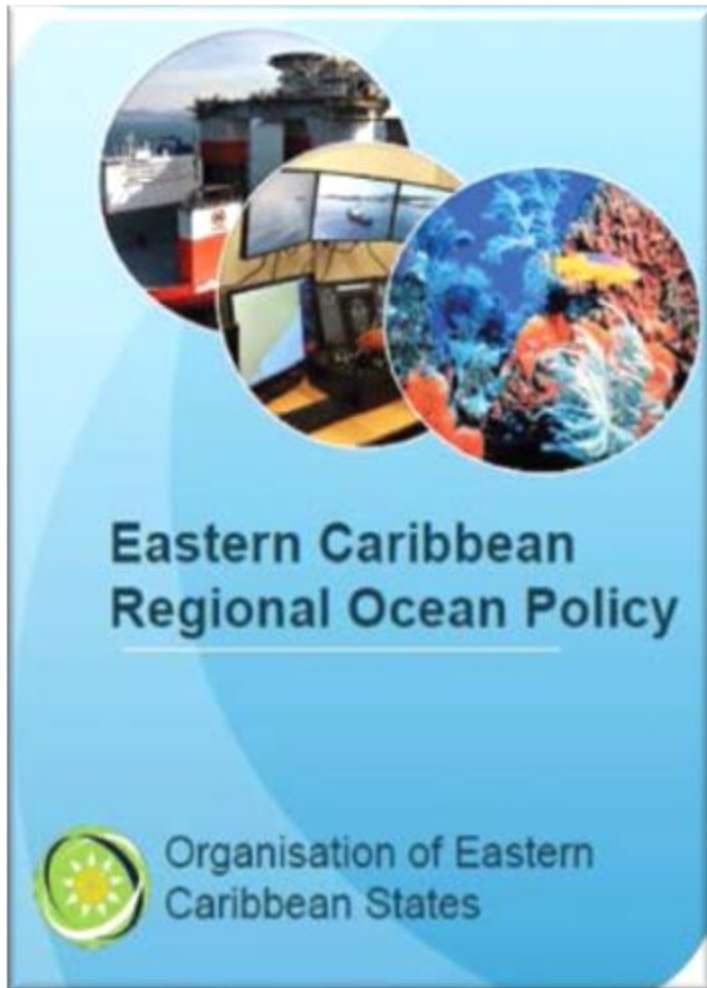
Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems (CLME+)

- 10-year Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for sustainable development is endorsed by 25 States and Territories;
- A CLME+ Interim Coordinating Mechanism (ICM) was established by an MOU in July 2017.
- **CLME+ Vision – “a healthy marine environment in the CLME+ provides benefits and livelihoods for the well-being of the people of the region”**



OECS blue economy consensus – vision, mission, policy, goals, priorities, actions

OECS EASTERN CARIBBEAN REGIONAL OCEAN POLICY (ECROP)



VISION

Healthy and richly biodiverse Eastern Caribbean marine environment, sustainably managed in an integrated way to promote socio-economic development and support the livelihoods and aspirations of current and future generations.

57th Meeting of the OECS Authority, 2-4 June 2013)



CARIBBEAN REGIONAL OCEANSCAPE PROJECT (CROP)

USD 6.3 M Funded by:



Administered by:



Executed by:



Participating countries:



Grant Agreement signed 14th Oct. 2017.

Effective 18th Oct. 2017.

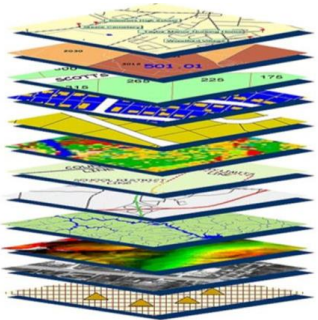


CARIBBEAN REGIONAL OCEANSCAPE PROJECT (CROP)

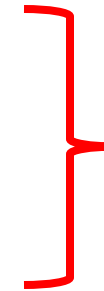


Supporting the transition to a sustainable ocean economy (blue economy) (ECROP, Action 3.1)

COMPONENT 1 Strengthening Ocean Governance



- National Coastal Master Plans;
- National Marine Spatial Plans (MSP)
- A Regional MSP Framework.
(ECROP Policy 4; Action 3.2, 3.3.)



**For orderly development
of the blue economy and
informed decision
making**

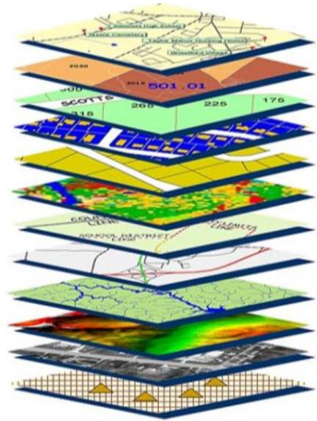


- National Ocean Governance Policies and Strategies;
- Align ECROP with 2030 development Agenda
(ECROP Policy 4; Action 3.2, 4.1.)

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL OCEANSCAPE PROJECT (CROP)



COMPONENT 2 Strengthening Knowledge & Capacity



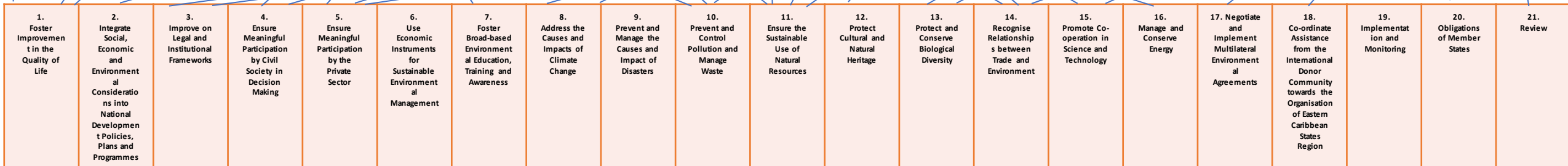
Expand marine data aggregation and Analytical Tools (for better decision making)

- **Mapping Ocean Wealth**
- **Mobile Data Applications of layered GIS**
(ECROP Policy 6; Action 6.1)

Institutional Strengthening and Knowledge Services

- **Think Blu U Virtual Open Campus University**
(ECROP Policy 5; Action 5.1)

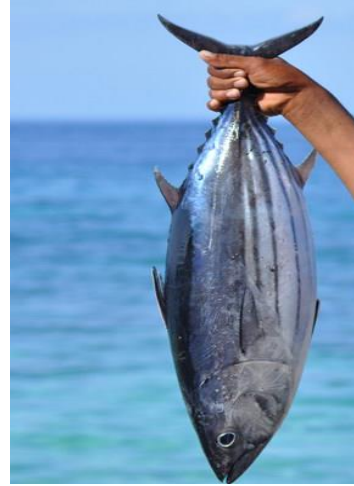
BLUE ECONOMY & THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA



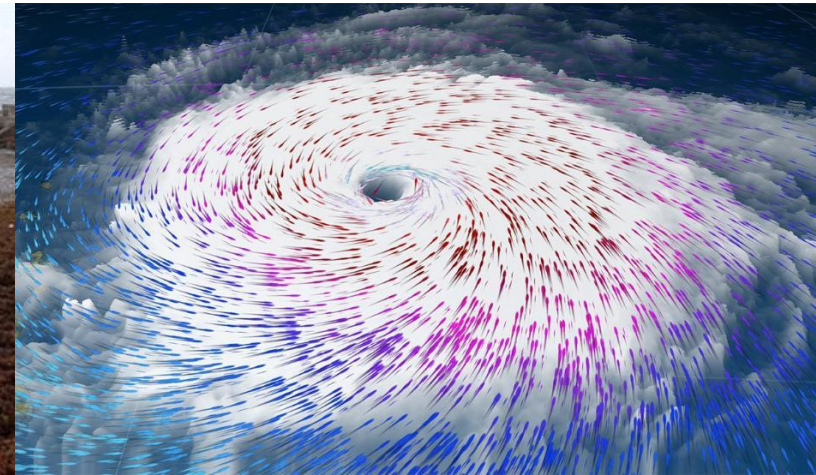
BLUE ECONOMY BENEFITS

Support for socio-economic sustainability, and resilience

- New technologies
- New markets
- Investment
- Capacity building
- Bioprospecting
- Technology transfer
- Assets and benefit sharing
- New fisheries & value added
- Entrepreneurship
- Job creation/livelihoods



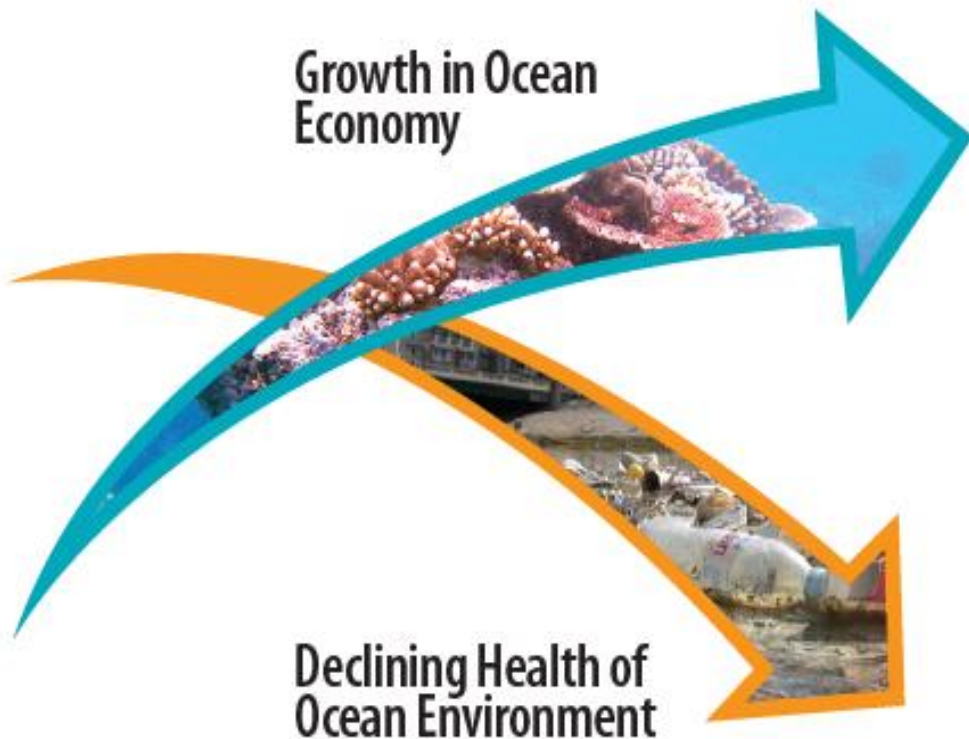
Be better able to adapt and recover quickly from adversity in climate and the environment, economic and social systems



CARIBBEAN BLUE ECONOMY- DRIVERS & PRESSURES

The Caribbean is a Biodiversity Hotspot with 8-35% of global endemic species

Two Parallel Trends in the Global Ocean



DRIVERS & PRESSURES

Human activities and climate change:

- **70%** of beaches eroded
- **75%** of coral reef dead
- **85%** of wastewater is untreated.

CARIBBEAN BLUE ECONOMY OPPORTUNITIES

- **Fisheries (Aquaculture)** - increased fish production by 30% in 10 years
- **Shipping** – Global shortage of 16,500 officers (2.1%) in 2017
- **Oil and Gas** – Guyana could export by 2020. Monthly yield could exceed 10 million barrel by 2022
- **Waste management** terrestrial & ship-generated, and circular economy
- **Tourism** – Yacht provisioning and repair services
- **Blue biotechnology** – e.g. Sargassum fertilizer





