



Regional Perspective on Future Directions for Biodiversity Action in Europe Overseas

Outcomes of the Review of the Implementation
of the Convention on Biological Diversity, December 2010

Gillian Cooper with contributions from Dominique Benzaken, Arnaud Collin,
Yves Renard and Olivier Tyack





About IUCN

IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature, helps the world find pragmatic solutions to our most pressing environment and development challenges.

IUCN works on biodiversity, climate change, energy, human livelihoods and greening the world economy by supporting scientific research, managing field projects all over the world, and bringing governments, NGOs, the UN and companies together to develop policy, laws and best practice.

IUCN is the world's oldest and largest global environmental organization, with more than 1,000 government and NGO members and almost 11,000 volunteer experts in some 160 countries. IUCN's work is supported by over 1,000 staff in 60 offices and hundreds of partners in public, NGO and private sectors around the world.

www.iucn.org

Have your say

Join Europe Overseas Forum to advance biodiversity and climate change action in EU overseas entities and their regions. You can share knowledge, experiences, news and updates, ask questions and exchange opinions.

www.iucn.org/euoverseas

Regional Perspective on Future Directions for Biodiversity Action in Europe Overseas

Outcomes of the Review of the Implementation
of the Convention on Biological Diversity, December 2010

Regional Perspective on Future Directions for Biodiversity Action in Europe Overseas

Outcomes of the Review of the Implementation
of the Convention on Biological Diversity, December 2010

Gillian Cooper with contributions from Dominique Benzaken, Arnaud Collin,
Yves Renard and Olivier Tyack



Credits

The designation of geographical entities in this publication, and the presentation of the material, do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IUCN concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of IUCN.

This publication has been made possible by funding from the French Ministry of Overseas (MOM) and the French Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development, Transport and Housing (MEDDTL).

Published by: IUCN, Gland, Switzerland

Copyright: © 2011 International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

Reproduction of this publication for educational or other non-commercial purposes is authorized without prior written permission from the copyright holder provided the source is fully acknowledged.

Reproduction of this publication for resale or other commercial purposes is prohibited without prior written permission of the copyright holder.

Citation: Cooper, G. et al (2011). *Regional Perspective on Future Directions for Biodiversity Action in Europe Overseas: Outcomes of the Review of the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity, December 2010*. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. ix+38 pp.

ISBN: 978-2-8317-1399-1

Cover photo: Grand Cayman Blue Iguana (*Cyclura lewisi*), a species endemic to Cayman Islands and listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ © Steve Maier

Layout by: Imre Sebestyén jr. / UNITgraphics.com

Available from: IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature)
European Union Outermost Regions and
Overseas Countries and Territories Programme

Rue Mauverney 28
1196 Gland
Switzerland
Tel +41 22 999 0000
Fax +41 22 999 0020
euoverseas@iucn.org
www.iucn.org/euoverseas
www.iucn.org/publications

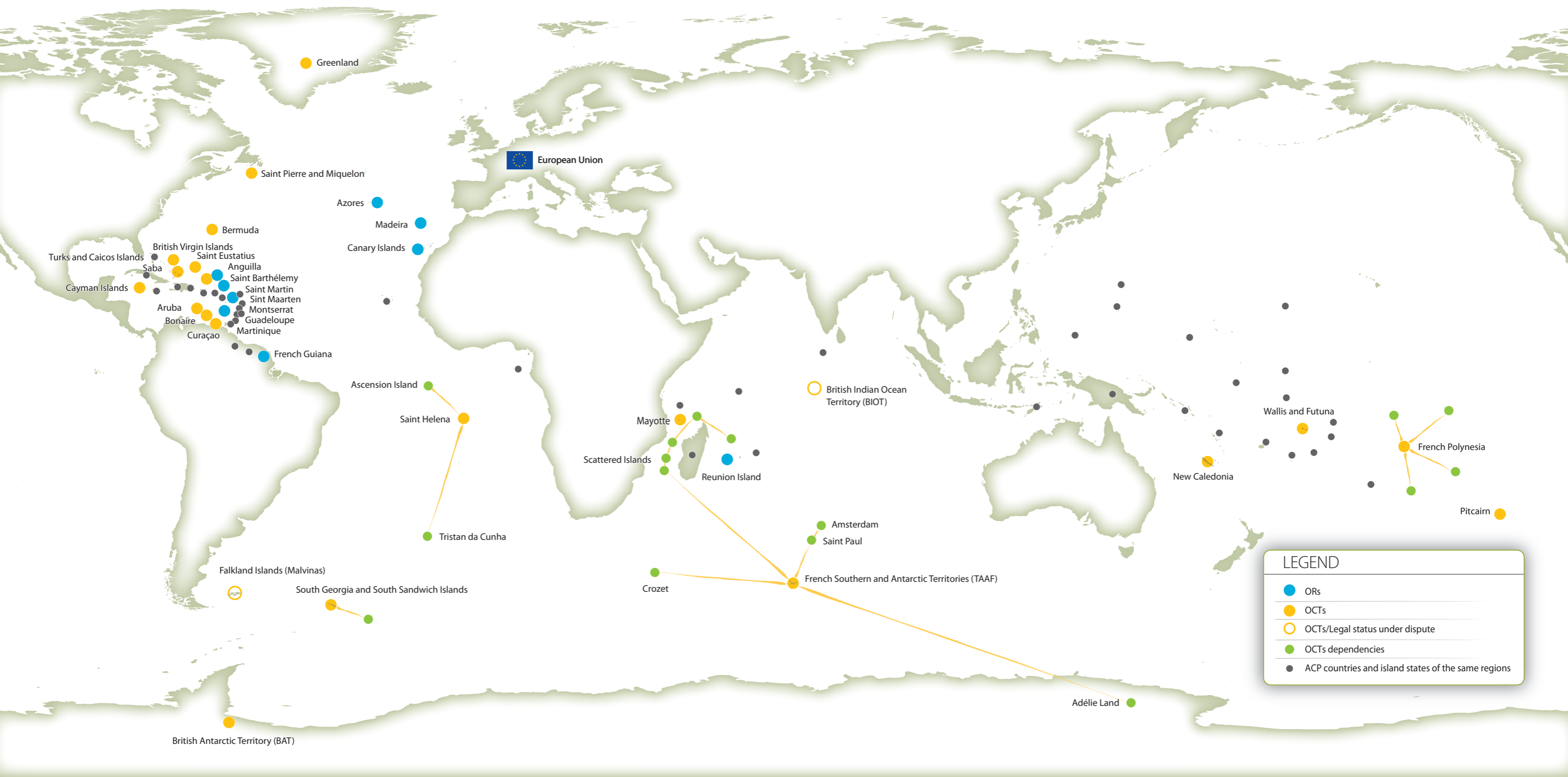
Contents

Acronyms	vi
Map of Europe Overseas	viii
Introduction	1
1. Overview of Biodiversity Significance of Each Region	2
1.1 Arctic region	2
1.2 Austral Ocean	2
1.3 Caribbean	3
1.4 Guiana Shield	4
1.5 Indian Ocean	4
1.6 Macaronesia	5
1.7 Oceania	5
1.8 South Atlantic Ocean	6
2. Main Mechanisms of Collaboration in Biodiversity Conservation	7
2.1 Status of participation or membership of EU overseas entities	7
2.1.1 Main intergovernmental bodies and policies by region	7
2.1.2 Main regional multi-national programmes	9
2.1.3 Summary tables	10
2.2 Regional non-governmental mechanisms and programmes	14
2.3 Bilateral and multilateral mechanisms in support of overseas entities	15
2.4 Successful collaborative examples	16
3. Constraints, Obstacles and Opportunities	17
3.1 Constraints and obstacles	17
3.2 Opportunities	19
4. Recommendations	20
4.1 To local and national governments	20
4.2 To regional organisations and conventions	20
4.3 To the EC	20
4.4 To the Secretariat of the CBD	21
4.5 To IUCN	21
4.6 To other actors	21
Appendix 1. Main Intergovernmental Organisations and Policies	22
A1.1 Arctic and Austral Oceans	22
A1.2 Caribbean	23
A1.3 Indian Ocean	25
A1.4 Macaronesia	26
A1.5 Oceania	27
A1.6 South-Atlantic Ocean	29
A1.7 Multi-regional institutions	29
Appendix 2. Main Regional Multi-National Programmes	30
Appendix 3. Regional Non-Governmental Mechanisms and Programmes	33
Appendix 4. Bilateral and Multilateral Mechanisms	37

Acronyms

ABA	Arctic Biodiversity Assessment	CROP	Cooperation of Regional Organizations in the Pacific
ACS	Association of Caribbean States	DCNA	Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance
ACS/CSI	Caribbean Sea Initiative of the Association of Caribbean States	DFID	Department for International Development, UK
ACTO	Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization	DG	Directorate General
ACUNS	Academic Council of the United Nations System	EC	European Commission
ADB	Asian Development Bank	ECCEA	Eastern Caribbean Coalition for Environmental Awareness
AET	<i>Association Evasion Tropicale, Guadeloupe</i>	ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
AFD	<i>Agence Française de Développement – French Development Agency</i>	EDF	European Development Fund
AMAP	Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme	EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
APFIC	Asia Pacific Fishery Commission	EU	European Union
ASCLME	Programme for the Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystems	FAD	Fish aggregating device
CAFF	Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna	FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
CANARI	Caribbean Natural Resources Institute	FFA	Forum Fisheries Association
CARDI	Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute	GEF	Global Environmental Facility
CARICOM	Caribbean Community	IATTC	Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity	IBA	Important Bird Areas
CCAMLR	Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources	ICCAT	International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna
CCCCC	Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre	ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
CCSBT	Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna	ICRAN	International Coral Reef Action Network
CECAF	Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic	ICRI	International Coral Reef Initiative
CEP	Caribbean Environment Programme	IFREMER	<i>Institut français de recherche pour l'exploitation de la mer – French Research Institute for Exploitation of the Sea</i>
CEPF	Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund	IGO	Inter-governmental organization
CI	Conservation International	INGO	International NGO
CII	Cooperative Initiative on Invasive Alien Species on Islands	IOC	Indian Ocean Commission
COMESA	Common Market of Eastern and Southern Africa	IOTC	Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
COPESCAL	Commission for Inland Fisheries for Latin America	IRD	<i>Institut de Recherche pour le Développement – Research Institute for Development</i>
CPMR	Conference of Peripheral and Maritime Regions of Europe	IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
CRISP	Coral Reef Initiative for the Pacific	JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee, UK
		LME	Large marine eco-systems
		MEA	Multi-lateral environmental agreement
		NACRI	Netherlands Islands Coral Reef Initiative

NAFO	Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization	SEPANMAR	<i>Société pour l'Etude, la Protection et l'Aménagement de la Nature en Martinique</i> – Society for the Study, Protection and Management of Nature, Martinique
NAMMCO	North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission		
NASCO	North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization	SGSSI	South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands
NEAFC	North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission	SIDS	Small Island Developing States
NGO	Non-governmental organization	SIOFA	South Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement
NZAID	New Zealand Aid	SOPAC	South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission
OAS	Organization of American States	SPAW	(Protocol on) Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife
OCTA	Overseas Countries and Territories of the European Union Association	SPAW/RAC	Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife Regional Activity Centre
OECS	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States	SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
OLDEPESCA	Latin America Organization for Fishery Development	SPREP	(Secretariat of the) Pacific Regional Environmental Programme
OR	Outermost Region	SPRFMO	South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization
OCT	Overseas Country and Territory	SWIOFC	South West Indian Ocean Commission for Fisheries
OT	Overseas territory	TAAF	<i>Terres Australes et Antarctiques Françaises</i> – French Southern and Antarctic Territories
PACC	Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change Project	UK	United Kingdom
PAME	Protection of Arctic Marine Environment	UN	United Nations
PCT-MAC	<i>Programa Macaronesia Cooperación Transnacional</i> – Macaronesian Transnational Cooperation Programme, European Commission	UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
PIANGO	Pacific Islands Association of NGOs	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
PIDP	Pacific Islands Development Programme	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
PIF	Pacific Islands Forum	UNESCO	United Nations Education Scientific and Cultural Organisation
PII	Pacific Invasive Initiative	UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
PIRNC	Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation	WCPFC	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
RAC	Regional activity centre	WECAFC	Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission
ReCoMAP	Regional Programme for the Sustainable Management of the Coastal Zones of the Countries of the Indian Ocean	WIOMSA	Western Indian Ocean Marine Scientific Association
RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organization	WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature
SADC	Southern African Development Community		
SAISP	South Atlantic Invasive Species Programme		
SEAFO	Southeast Atlantic Fisheries Organization		



Introduction

There are 30 overseas entities that are linked to six Member States of the European Union (EU): Denmark, France, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and the United Kingdom (UK). Spread across all oceans and home to a unique diversity of species and ecosystems, these EU overseas entities are of crucial importance for biodiversity at a global scale.

EU overseas entities are located in a number of biodiversity hotspots¹ (Caribbean Islands, Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands, Mediterranean Basin, New Caledonia, Polynesia-Micronesia), in major wilderness areas (Guyana Shield), and in key regions for polar ecosystems and fish stocks such as Greenland, the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)², the French Southern and Antarctic Territories (TAAF) and South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands.

This regional study has been prepared as a contribution to the review of the status of the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in EU overseas entities which was carried out by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

The review of the CBD implementation in Europe overseas is based on national studies in all six EU Member States involved (Denmark, France, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and the United Kingdom), and this regional study. These documents provided the basis for the preparation of a final report entitled *Future Directions for Biodiversity Action in Europe Overseas: Outcomes of the Review of the Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity, December 2010*.³

This work is part of the IUCN EU Outermost Regions and Overseas Countries and Territories Programme. It builds on IUCN's earlier efforts in support of biodiversity conservation and adaptation to climate change in the EU overseas entities, with the hosting (in partnership

with the Regional Council of Reunion Island and the *Observatoire National sur les Effets du Réchauffement Climatique* (ONERC – French National Observatory of the Effects of Global Warming) of the Conference on *The European Union and its Overseas Entities: Strategies to Counter Climate Change and Biodiversity Loss* held in Reunion Island in July 2008, which resulted in the publication of the Message from Reunion Island as well as a comprehensive report entitled *Climate Change and Biodiversity in the European Union Overseas Entities*⁴. This IUCN Programme, which is funded by the Government of France, aims to implement some of the 21 recommendations endorsed at the 2008 Reunion Island Conference. One of the results expected is the strengthening of, and the provision of support to, biodiversity strategies in these overseas entities, and in the geographic regions of which they are part.⁵

This regional overview was prepared through desk research, including the review of the national studies, as well as interviews with experts working in or with overseas entities. It was considered critical to this project, because the conservation and management of the biological diversity of these European overseas entities could not be considered in isolation from their geographic and ecological regions, and because effective regional cooperation is seen as an essential instrument for effective conservation and management.

1 See www.biodiversityhotspots.org for definition, background and description of all hotspots.

2 A dispute exists between the Government of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

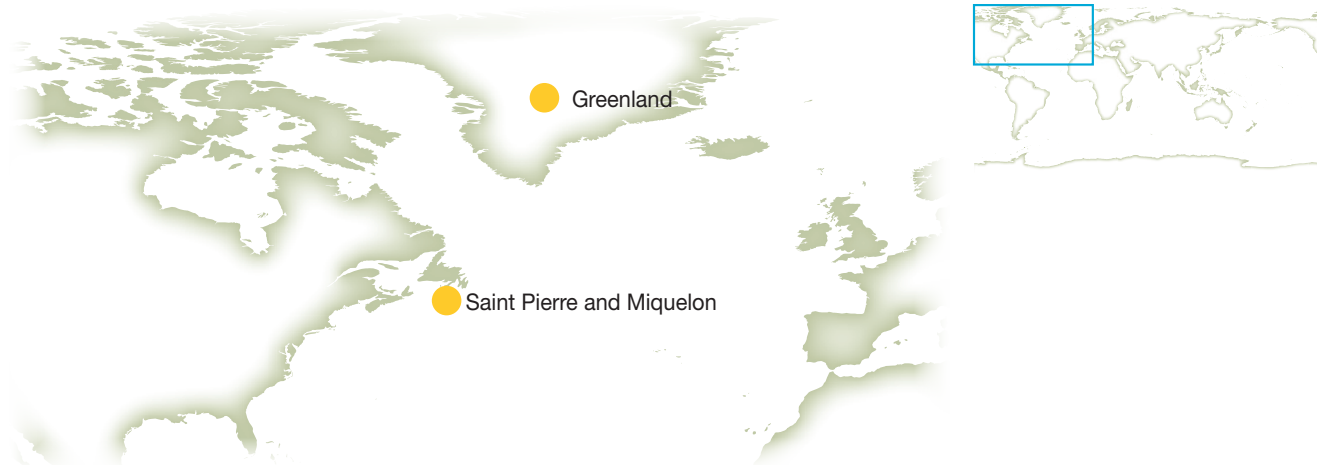
3 Available in English, French and Spanish at www.iucn.org/publications.

4 Available in English, French and Spanish at www.iucn.org/publications.

5 Further information at www.iucn.org/euoverseas.

1. Overview of Biodiversity Significance of Each Region⁶

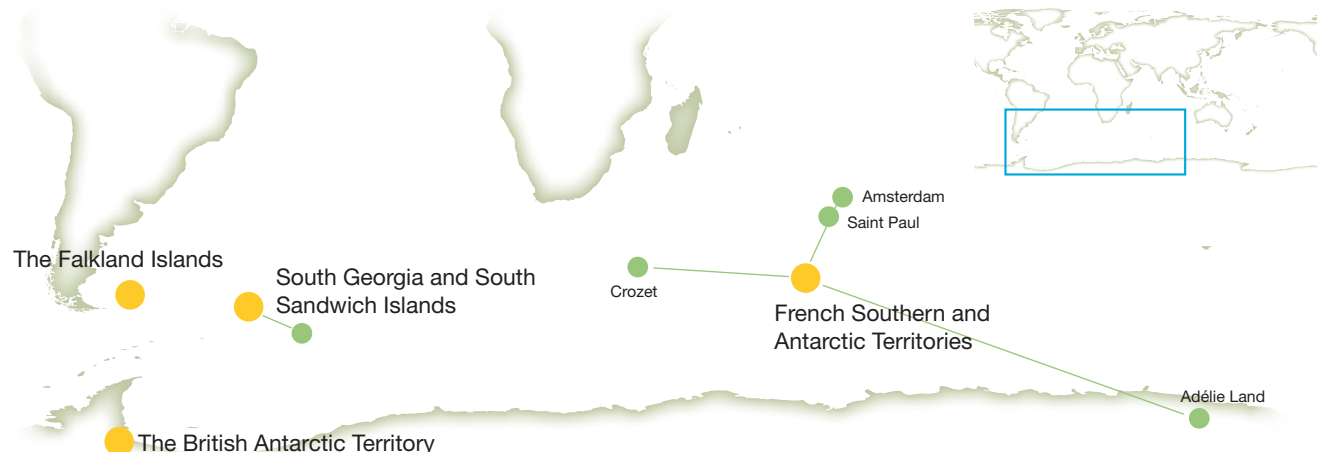
1.1 Arctic region



This region includes two EU Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs). These are the Danish OCT of Greenland and French OCT of Saint Pierre and Miquelon. There are few endemic species on either OCTs, but Greenland has high overall native diversity.

Most species present in Greenland are similar to those found on the rest of the Arctic. Benthic and crustacean communities around both islands are especially rich, supporting a large number of marine mammals.

1.2 Austral Ocean



The Austral Ocean or Antarctic region contains four OCTs: The British Antarctic Territory, the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (UK); French Southern and Antarctic Territories (TAAF), which includes eight islands in the Southern Indian Ocean and thousands of islets; and South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands (SGSSI) (UK).

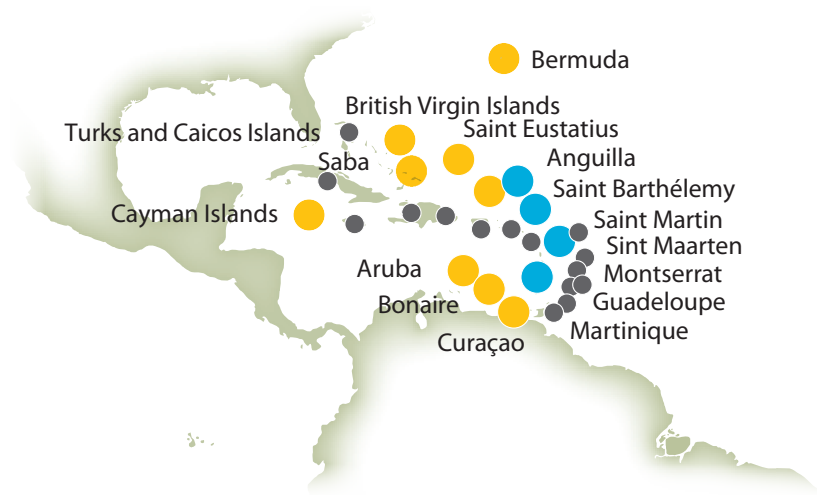
The harsh climate of these regions means that there is relatively low terrestrial vegetation and mammal biodiversity. The Falkland Islands (Malvinas) are a breeding ground for 70 percent of the world population of Black-browed Albatross (*Thalassarche melanophrys*) and up to 33 percent of the Rockhopper

⁶ The main source for this entire section is Petit, J. and Prudent G. (2008). Climate Change and Biodiversity in the European Union Overseas Entities. IUCN, Brussels. 196 pp.

Penguin (species *Eudyptes chrysocome*) population. The SGSSI host 11 species of albatross and petrel and are home to the largest colony of Chinstrap Penguins (*Pygoscelis antarcticus*). 55 percent of the invertebrates of TAAF (Crozet archipelago) are endemic. The surrounding waters are ecologically very

rich and support the large populations of birds as well as marine mammals. 15 species of cetacean are found in the waters around the Falkland Islands (Malvinas); SGSSI is the most important breeding grounds for Antarctic Fur Seals (*Arctocephalus gazella*).

1.3 Caribbean



The Caribbean region includes four Outermost Regions (OR) and 12 OCTs. These are the Dutch OCTs of Aruba and the five islands of the former Netherlands Antilles⁷ (Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, Saint Eustatius and Sint Maarten); French ORs of Guadeloupe and Martinique, as well as Saint Barthélemy, and Saint Martin that were formerly part of Guadeloupe and have recently acquired a separate status, and the British OCTs of Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands (BVI), Cayman Islands, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos Islands.

The coral reefs of Curaçao and Bonaire are perhaps the best preserved in the region because they have not been devastated by tropical storms and have benefited from active management over a period of time. Bonaire has more than 340 species of fish observed. Anguilla and the BVI's reef systems are in the best condition for the Eastern Caribbean. Bermuda's unique and extensive underwater cave system is home to 80 endemic species including 2 new orders of crustaceans, one new family and 15 new genera. The Saba Bank is the third largest atoll in the world.

The extensive mangrove and wetlands of Turks and Caicos Islands include swamps and complex estuaries. The marshes of Bonaire and the wetlands of Cayman Islands provide critical habitat for migratory bird and marine species in the region. Many beaches of the OCTs are important egg-laying grounds for threatened and endangered marine turtles.

The region shows extremely diverse terrestrial ecosystems over short ranges. Of particular mention are Guadeloupe's and Martinique's complex and original forest ecosystems, BVI's thickets and dry forest, and Saba's high altitude rain forest. Many species of native orchids in the region are found in these OCTs. 30,000 adults of the Turks and Caicos Rock Iguana (*Cyclura carinata*), found only on Turks and Caicos Island, is the one of the largest populations of Rock iguana in the Caribbean. The 'Mountain chicken' (*Leptodactylus fallax*), also known as the Giant Ditch Frog, found only on Montserrat and neighbouring Dominica is the second largest amphibian in the world.

⁷ On 10 October 2010, the autonomous country of the Netherlands Antilles, which included Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, Saint Eustatius and Sint Maarten, was dismantled. Curaçao and Sint Maarten have obtained the status of autonomous country within the Kingdom of the Netherlands, an OCT status comparable to that of Aruba at present. Bonaire, Saba and Saint Eustatius, known as the BES Islands, have become part of the Netherlands as special municipalities and are likely to obtain the status of Outermost Region in the near future.

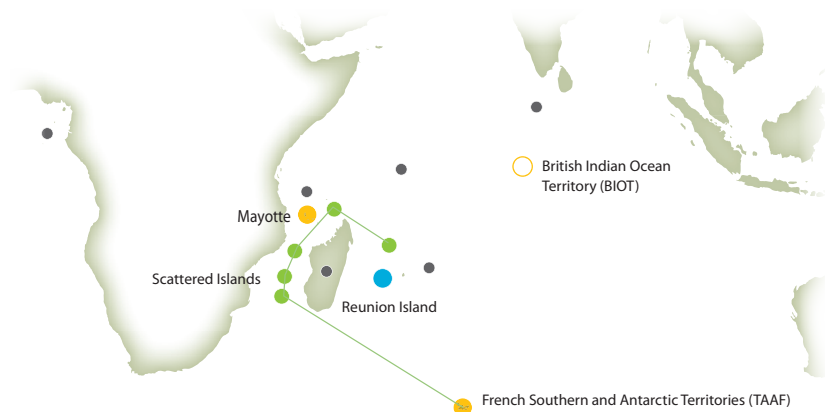
1.4 Guiana Shield



This region includes one EU OR: French Guiana. This territory has immense biodiversity resources. 83.1 percent of French Guiana is covered by equatorial rainforest. 5,750 plant species, 718 species of birds,

183 species of mammals, 480 species of freshwater fish and 108 species of amphibian have been inventoried, but there is still much to be studied.

1.5 Indian Ocean



The Indian Ocean region includes one OR and three OCTs. These are the French OR of Reunion and the OCT of Mayotte⁸, an island which is part of the Comoros archipelago, and French Scattered Islands (a part of TAAF) off Madagascar; and the UK OCT of the British Indian Ocean Territory⁹, also known as the Chagos Archipelago.

The Indian Ocean is home to about 15 percent of the world's coral reefs. The Chagos archipelago, Mayotte and the Scattered Islands are particularly rich in coral diversity. Mayotte has a rare, double barrier reef and the Chagos is the largest atoll in the world – home to 220 species of coral. In 2010 it was declared a Marine Protected Area – the largest no-take marine reserve in the world. The Europa Island, one of the Scattered Islands, is the most important breeding site in the world for the Green Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*). The EU OCTs of the Indian Ocean are also home to a large variety of marine mammals such as dolphins, the rare Dugong

(*Dugong dugon*) and whales such as the Sperm Whale (*Physeter macrocephalus*), the Humpback Whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), and the Blainville's Beaked Whale (*Mesoplodon densirostris*). Mayotte's lagoon alone is visited by 21 species of cetacean.

Terrestrially, these islands of the Indian Ocean also have extremely diverse ecosystems that occur over short ranges. The flora of the islands is particularly rich with Mayotte having the richest collection of tropical insular flora. It has 1000 species of vascular plants. Reunion has over 750 species of vascular plants and is still covered by large swathes of native vegetation. The Europa Island also has intact native vegetation and many others of the Scattered Islands are almost entirely free of human impact. Reunion has seven endemic birds and Mayotte is home to the Brown Lemur (*Eulemur fulvus*), also known as *Maki*. Chagos and the Scattered Islands provide ideal habitat for a multitude of seabirds.

⁸ Mayotte will become a French department in 2011 and may consequently acquire Outermost Region status.

⁹ On 20 December 2010, the Republic of Mauritius initiated proceedings against the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under the dispute settlement provisions of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS);

1.6 Macaronesia



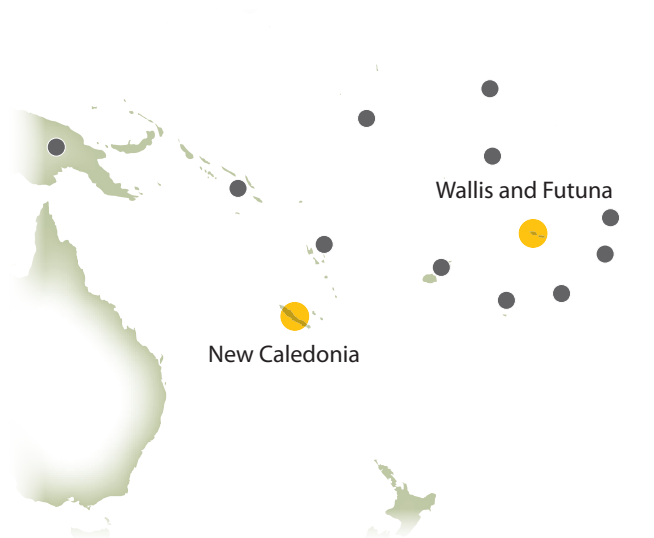
Macaronesia consists of a group of several islands in the North East Atlantic. The three EU overseas entities in this region are all ORs: the Azores (Portugal), Canary Islands (Spain) and Madeira (Portugal).

The biodiversity of these islands consist of a blend of the biological families found in the North Atlantic, Mediterranean and Africa. They are high in altitude and supplied by trade winds from the northeast creating a range of climatic conditions. One of the distinguishing features of Macaronesia is the persistence of species that are extinct on the continent. Forests, such as

the Laurel forest, resemble European forest prior to the last glacial period. Endemism rates are very high. In the Canaries, 21 percent of plants, 100 percent reptiles and 39 percent of invertebrates are endemic. Madeira has a total of 1,419 endemic species and sub-species, the large majority of which are molluscs and arthropods.

The islands are also surrounded by exceptional marine biodiversity. There are 29 species of cetaceans observed in the Canary Islands. Five species of marine turtles find their home in the Macaronesia waters.

1.7 Oceania



The Oceania region includes three remote OCTs of France and one OCT of the UK. These are French Polynesia (France), New Caledonia (France), Pitcairn (UK) and Wallis and Futuna (France). These territories are located within a vast region of some 25,000 islands of Indonesia, Melanesia and Micronesia, a particularly species rich region in the Pacific.

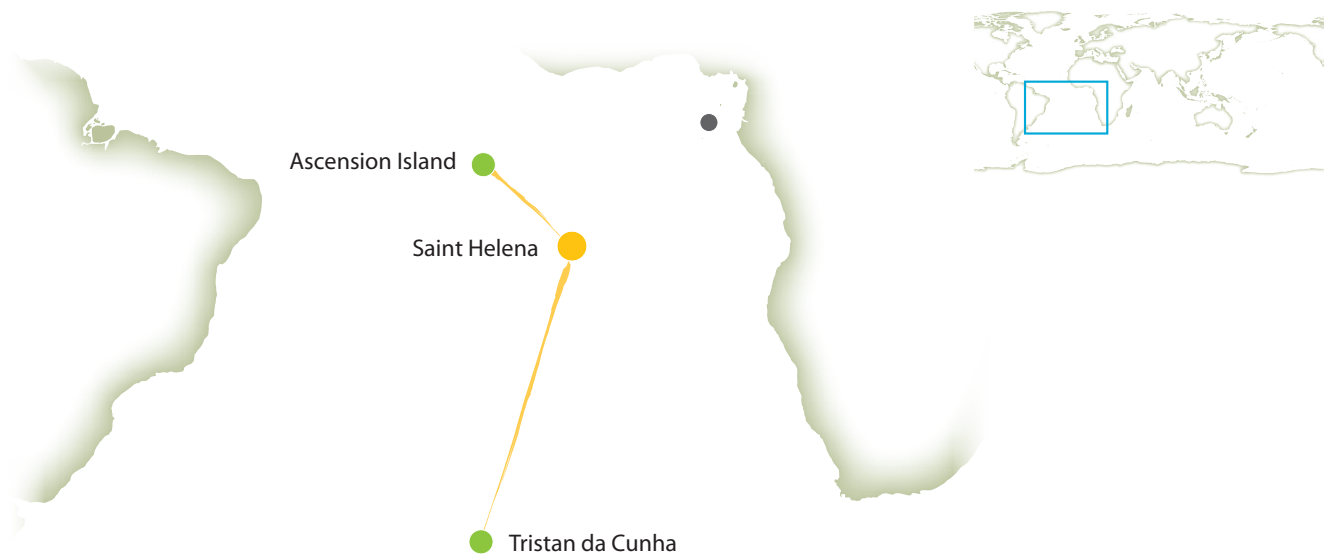
Due to their isolation, numbers of terrestrial species in these islands are low but their endemism is high, having evolved in isolation for several million years. The variety of landscapes is remarkable. French Polynesia has 118 islands, including 84 atolls which make up 20 percent of the atolls on the planet. New Caledonia is a global biodiversity hotspot in its own right with biodiversity

three times greater than that of the Polynesian islands. New Caledonia is actually a fragment of Pangaea (not a volcanic island), the original single continent. It has 2,423 species of endemic vascular plants and is home to the second largest coral barrier reef in the world.

French Polynesia has 893 indigenous species of vascular plants of which 58 percent are endemic and 31 species of terrestrial birds of which 22 are endemic. The Territory's atolls have 176 species of corals, 1,024 species of fish and 1,160 species of molluscs.

Tiny Pitcairn and its outlying islands are home for 90 percent of the global population of the Murphy's Petrel (*Pterodroma ultima*). In general, the biodiversity, particularly the marine biodiversity of Pitcairn and Wallis and Futuna are unstudied.

1.8 South Atlantic Ocean



The South Atlantic Ocean region includes one UK OCT. Administratively, this includes St. Helena, Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha, although geographically they are several 1000 km apart and function independently. These islands have high levels of endemism. St. Helena has 45 endemic plants, 400 endemic invertebrates and over a dozen endemic coastal fish species. Ascension Island has 35 endemic species, including the Ascension Frigatebird

(*Fregata Aquila*). Ascension Island is home to one of the most important populations of breeding Green turtles (*Chelonia mydas*). Tristan da Cunha also has a number of endemic birds, including the Inaccessible Rail (*Atlantisia rogersi*), the world's smallest flightless bird, as well as populations of five globally threatened seabirds. Tristan da Cunha's outlying islands of Inaccessible, Nightingale and Gough have had very little human impact so have a near pristine environment.

2. Main Mechanisms of Collaboration in Biodiversity Conservation

2.1 Status of participation or membership of EU overseas entities

Appendixes 2 and 3 provide a full alphabetical list with further details of all intergovernmental bodies, policies and programmes by region. Below is an overall description of the institutional architecture by region and a discussion of the status of participation of EU overseas entities. Sections 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 are further illustrated by the tables in 2.1.3 regarding ORs and OCTs participation and benefits.

2.1.1 Main intergovernmental bodies and policies by region

Arctic region

The Arctic Council is the main intergovernmental forum aimed at promoting cooperation, coordination and interaction among Arctic States with a particular focus on involving the Arctic indigenous communities. The Council was established in 1996 with the Ottawa Declaration and followed the 1991 Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy. Biodiversity conservation and climate change related issues appear to have been well coordinated in the Arctic through the Council's three main programmes: the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) established in 1991, Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF), and Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME).

At a global level a number of multilateral agreements and mechanisms such as the North Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO), the North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO) and North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) provide conservation and management measures for biological resources in the Arctic area.

With regard to the participation of EU OCTs, Greenland has wide participation in the above bodies through

Denmark which is also an Arctic nation. Greenland participates as its own country in only one of the organizations reviewed – NAMMCO (see section 2.3). Saint Pierre and Miquelon is not represented in the regional Arctic bodies and is represented only through France in the UN organizations.

Austral Ocean

The Antarctic Treaty Secretariat, established in September 2004 provides the main framework for intergovernmental dialogue between the 46 countries that have a base in Antarctica. The Antarctic Treaty System precedes the Secretariat. It entered into force in 1961. An Environment Protocol established in 1991 and the Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Fauna and Flora (1982) are the main agreements that govern operational and scientific cooperation between nations in Antarctica.

While the UK and French Antarctic territories appear to be well represented in the intergovernmental bodies, it is unclear if the Falkland Island (Malvinas) has a presence.

Caribbean and Guiana Shield

The Wider Caribbean region (including the Guiana Shield) comprises a maze of intergovernmental organizations. Those with a mandate for biodiversity and climate change related issues currently have many overlapping and competing arrangements and there is no coherent governance framework.

A range of governance levels exists. At the global level, the United Nations (UN) institutions provide instruments with broad principles that are agreed upon and that provide a global foundation for regional level governance through the UN Convention for the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) (e.g. International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas - ICCAT) and the Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (represented in the region by the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission – WECAFC). At the regional level, there

are several Wider Caribbean institutions originating from UN initiatives such as the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, known as the Cartagena Convention (facilitated by UNEP and implemented through the Caribbean Environment Programme – CEP), and the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) which has a Division dealing with sustainable development and natural resources.

There are also indigenous political and economic regional and sub-regional institutions such as the Association of Caribbean States (ACS), which aims to be inclusive of the entire region using the Caribbean Basin as its geographical focus for dialogue and policy between Caribbean states. ACS has a Caribbean Sea Initiative (CSI). There is the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) which is facilitated by UNEP ROLAC. Sub-regional organizations are primarily political and economic with technical units such as the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Environment and Sustainable Development Unit (ESDU); the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), and its Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) and Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC); as well as the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) which is focused on sustainable development of the Amazonian Countries, including the Guianas.

Participation of EU ORs and OCTs is complicated, with different groupings participating in different bodies. Regarding economic and political organizations, OCTs of the Netherlands and UK tend to have ‘associate member’ status while the French ORs of French Guiana, Guadeloupe and Martinique are not involved. The membership status of OCTs, however, is not standardised as the Dutch islands have ‘observer member’ status in CARICOM while the UK OCTs have ‘associate’ status. Neither is it established what the different levels of membership mean to their role. Only the ACS includes all EU overseas entities alongside the independent states.

Indian Ocean

The Indian Ocean region is also a sub-region of Africa in which there are numerous economic and political intergovernmental bodies. The Indian Ocean region

is included in bodies that span the Southern African region, such as the Southern African Development Community (SADC), as well as Eastern Africa, such as the Common Market of Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA). The Indian Ocean Rim Association is focused entirely on this region and supports trade and investment in the area.

The Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) is focused on sustainable development and has a number of programmes focused on biodiversity – particularly coastal zone management, coral reef monitoring and adaptation to climate change. Global, UN multilateral mechanisms related to biodiversity include the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) which has management powers and budgets, the South West Indian Ocean Commission for Fisheries (SWIOFC) which is one of the FAO Responsible Fisheries Agreements and the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement which has not yet entered into force (SIOFA).

In comparison to the Caribbean region, it is the EU OCTs rather than ORs that are much less involved in regional intergovernmental decision-making bodies. Reunion Island is a member of the IOC because it is an OR while Mayotte, because it is not yet an OR, is not a member. France does have a significant presence in the area through funding programmes such as the IOC’s Adaptation to Climate Change and Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF). Neither the UK nor the Chagos archipelago is represented on any regional body. The IOTC is the only agreement that applies to this region to which the UK is party.

Macaronesia

Very few regional bodies exist for this region possibly due to the close ties and location of the Azores, Canaries and Madeira to their EU Member State country (see discussion in section 3). EU-based mechanisms such as the Conference of Peripheral and Maritime Regions of Europe (CPMR) bring together the Macaronesia region with other EU ORs such as Reunion, Martinique and Guadeloupe. CPMR is focused on improving economic development options for peripheral maritime regions of Europe.

The Macaronesian islands fall within the FAO Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF)

but this has no administrative organization. The mechanism which has promoted greatest regional links appears to have been the EC-funded Programa Mac and its predecessor Interreg IIIB which financially supported a number of important regional projects focused on biodiversity and climate change (see Appendix 3).

Oceania

Significant attention has been placed on regional coordination of intergovernmental bodies, policies and actions in this region. Main intergovernmental bodies are the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) of high level decision-makers in the region, the Pacific Community (SPC), the Pacific Islands Development Programme (PIDP), the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) and the Forum Fisheries Association (FFA). These IGOs are all part of the Council of Regional Organizations (CROP), an inter-organizational consultative process that aims to prevent overlap and gaps between the work-programmes of the member organizations. The Secretary General of the PIF is also the Chair of CROP. France's overseas entities participate in most of those fora as associate members alongside France, whilst Pitcairn is only represented on the SPC governing body.

Policy coordination is achieved through key regional policies such as the Pacific Island Plan which is coordinated by the PIF and is the overarching document for the region for sustainable development. Key regional policies for biodiversity and climate change which have been endorsed by IGOs include the PI Action Strategy on Nature Conservation, the PI Regional Oceans Policy, the newly developed Pacific Oceanscape Strategy (see Appendix 1) and the PI Framework for Action on Climate Change. Both the PI Action Strategy on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas and the PI Framework for Action on Climate change are coordinated through a roundtable mechanism, respectively by the Regional Office for Oceania and SPREP. The roundtable, called the Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation (PIRNC) is the Pacific's only voluntary membership-based network of non-government organisations, donors and regional organisations working in nature conservation in the region established to improve collaboration and coordination (see Appendix 3).

UN regional bodies in the region include the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization (SPRFMO), the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) which focuses on the Eastern Pacific Ocean. Other UN regional institutions include regional offices of UN programmes such as UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, FAO. France and the UK, not the OCTs, are represented on these bodies.

South-Atlantic Ocean

There appears to be no intergovernmental bodies for this region apart from the South East Atlantic Fisheries Organization (SEAFO) that include St. Helena, Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha. Even the St. Helena Legislative Council (the St. Helena 'parliament') does not include representation from Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha. Instead, both Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha have an Administrator appointed to represent the Governor of St. Helena.

2.1.2 Main regional multi-national programmes

As to be expected there are a large number of regional multi-national programmes which are listed in some detail at Appendix 3. A number are finite, project-based programmes of IGOs already mentioned above such as the Arctic Biodiversity Assessment of CAFF and the Interreg IIIB projects for the Macaronesia region.

Other significant longer-term multi-national programmes include the following.

Caribbean

The SPAW Regional Activity Centre (RAC) is hosted by the *Parc national de la Guadeloupe* (Guadeloupe National Park) and funded by the Government of France. The RAC supports the implementation of SPAW throughout the Wider Caribbean region. The Transboundary Cooperation Programme of French Guiana, Brazil and Suriname includes collaboration between protected areas expertise and technical cooperation between the three countries.

Indian Ocean

The Programme for the Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystems (ASCLME) is a GEF and UNDP funded programme which includes Fisheries and Land Based Activities 'sister projects'. The Regional Programme for the Sustainable Management of the Coastal Zones of the Countries of the Indian Ocean (ReCoMAP) is delivered by the IOC and funded by the EU.

Oceania

The Pacific Invasive Initiative (PII), based at the University of Auckland, provides capacity development assistance for invasive work. The Coral Reef Initiative for the Pacific (CRISP), a regional partnership initiative, funded by France, focuses on the conservation and sustainable use of coral reef ecosystems. Both initiatives are implemented in France's OCTs (New Caledonia, French Polynesia) unlike other regional projects funded by GEF, e.g., the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change Project (PACC) which does not include OCTs because of their ineligibility for UN funds.

2.1.3 Summary tables

The following summary tables below show participation and benefits received by ORs and OCTs from regional inter-governmental organizations, policies and programmes that have a biodiversity and climate change mandate.

These tables aim to demonstrate the participation and benefits that ORs and OCTs received from the inter-governmental biodiversity and climate change related organizations and the policies and programmes in each region already briefly described in sections 2.1.1 and 2.1.2.

How to read the tables

Technical Cooperation	Refers to technical support provided from the EU Member State or other countries
Joint Projects	Refers to collaborative projects among EU overseas entities or between entities and neighbouring countries

Symbols

Colour of ●	Within a region, benefits may be received by some EU Member State ORs and OCTs rather than all within that region. In this case, the colour of ● represents which EU Member State ORs and/or OCTs benefit. If ● is black, all ORs and OCTs in the region receive this benefit
?	Lack of clarity regarding details on the benefits received (from the stand-point of a desk review, it was not always clear from the documentation available)
x	No benefit
z	Participation through the membership of Denmark
*	Participation through the membership of France
**	Participation through the membership of the UK
+	Participation through the membership of the Netherlands
#	Participation through the membership of Spain
##	Participation through the membership of Portugal

Colours representing the EU Member State and their overseas entities within that region

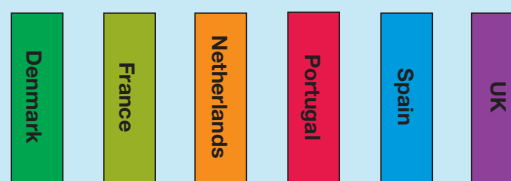


Table 1: Arctic and Austral Oceans

Mechanism	Participation			Benefits to EU ORs and OCTs						Other/ Comment
	Denmark	France	UK	Funding	Technical Cooperation	Joint Projects	Info Sharing	Capacity Building	Policy Development	
AMAP	● ^z	x	n/a	x	●	?	●	x	x	
CAFF	● ^z	x	n/a	?	●	●	●	●	x	
PAME	● ^z	x	n/a	?	?	?	●	?	●	
ICCAT	x	● ⁺	● ^{**}	x	?	?	●	?	●	
ICES	● ^z	x	● ^{**}	x	?	?	●	x	x	Links with Falkland Islands (Malvinas) unclear
NAFO	● ^z	● ⁺	n/a	x	?	?	●	x	●	Ratification still in progress
NAMMCO	●	x	n/a	x	●	?	●	?	●	
NASCO	● ^z	x	n/a	x	x	x	?	x	x	
NEAFC	● ^z	x	n/a	x	x	x	●	x	●	
CCAMLR	n/a	● ⁺	● ^{**}	x	●	●	●	?	●	Links with Falkland Islands (Malvinas) unclear
<i>Policies and multi-national programmes</i>										
ABA	● ^z	x	n/a	●	●	?	?	x	x	
Antarctic Treaty System	n/a	● ⁺	● ^{**}	?	●	?	●	x	●	Links with Falkland Islands (Malvinas) unclear

Table 2: Caribbean and Guiana Shield

Mechanism	Participation			Benefits to EU ORs and OCTs						Other/ Comment
	Netherlands	France	UK	Funding	Technical Cooperation	Joint Projects	Info Sharing	Capacity Building	Policy Development	
ICCAT	● ⁺	● ⁺	● ^{**}	x	?	?	●	?	●	
CARICOM CRFM	x	x	●	?	●	?	●	?	●	Only British OCTs - Anguilla, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos Islands are members
CEP	●	x	●	?	●●	●●	●●	●●	?	
CCCCC	●	x	●	●	●	x	●	●	●	This was made possible through DFID funding for British OCTs (see section 2.1.2)
COPESCAL	x	x	x	x	x	x	?	x	x	
FAO ROLAC	x	x	x	x	?	x	●	x	?	
OECS ESDU	x	x	●	●	●	?	●	●	●	Only British OCTs – Anguilla, BVI, Montserrat
OLDEPESCA	x	x	x	x	x	x	?	x	x	
WECAFC	● ⁺	● ⁺	● ^{**}	x	?	x	●	x	●	

Mechanism	Participation			Benefits to EU ORs and OCTs						Other/ Comment
	Netherlands	France	UK	Funding	Technical Cooperation	Joint Projects	Info Sharing	Capacity Building	Policy Development	
<i>Policies and multi-national programmes</i>										
ACS CSI	●	●	●	x	x	x	●	x	●	Through ACUNS (see section 2.1.3)
Agoa	x	●	x	?	?	●	●	?	●	
Bldg UK OCT CSO capacity (CANARI)	x	x	●	●	●	x	●	●	x	
DCNA	●	x	x	●	●	●	●	●	●	
SPAW/ RAC	●	●	●	●	●	?	●	●	●	

Table 3: Guiana Shield

Mechanism	Participation		Benefits to EU ORs and OCTs						Other/ Comment
	France		Funding	Technical Cooperation	Joint Projects	Info Sharing	Capacity Building	Policy Development	
ACTO and Treaty		x	x	x	x	?	x	?	
Trans-boundary Coop FrG-Br-S		●	●	●	●	●	●	?	

Table 4: Indian Ocean

Mechanism	Participation		Benefits to EU ORs and OCTs						Other/ Comment	
	France	UK	Funding	Technical Cooperation	Joint Projects	Info Sharing	Capacity Building	Policy Development		
CCSBT	x	x	x	x	x	?	x	x		
IOC Env.	●	x	●	●	●	●	●	●	Of the French ORs and OCTs, Mayotte does not benefit – only Reunion	
IOTC	●*	●**	x	●	x	?	?	●		
SIOFA	n/a	n/a							Not yet entered into force	
SWIOFC	●*	x	x	?	x	●	?	?		
<i>Policies and multi-national programmes</i>										
ASCLME	x	x	x	x	?	?	x	x	France is a donor agency – unclear if French entities may benefit in some way later on	
ReCoMAP	x	x	x	x	?	?	x	x		

Table 5: Macaronesia

Mechanism	Participation		Benefits to EU ORs and OCTs						Other/ Comment
	Spain	Portugal	Funding	Technical Cooperation	Joint Projects	Info Sharing	Capacity Building	Policy Development	
CECAF	●	x	x	x	x	?	x	?	
ICCAT	x	x	x	●	?	●	?	●	
ICES	● [#]	● [#]	x	?	x	?	x	?	
NEAFC	x	x	x	x	x	?	x	?	
<i>Policies and multi-national programmes</i>									
Interreg IIIB/ PCT-MAC	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	?	

Table 6: Oceania

Mechanism	Participation		Benefits to EU ORs and OCTs						Other/ Comment
	France	UK	Funding	Technical Cooperation	Joint Projects	Info Sharing	Capacity Building	Policy Development	
CCSBT	x	x	x	x	x	?	x	?	
APFIC	● *	● **	x	?	x	?	x	?	
CROP	●	x	?	●	●	●	●	●	
FFA	x	x	x	?	?	?	?	●	
IATTC	●*	x	x	?	?	●	x	?	
SPREP	●	x	●	●	●	●	●	●	
SOPAC	●	x	x	?	?	●	●	x	
SPC FAME	●	●	?	?	●	●	●	?	
SPRFMO	n/a	n/a							Not yet come into force
WCPFC	●	x	x	x	x	●	x	●	
<i>Policies and multi-national programmes</i>									
Action Strategy	●	?	x	x	●	●	●	x	
Coral Sea Heritage Park	●	x	x	?	?	?	?	?	
PII	●	x	x	●	?	●	●	?	
PI Ocean Policy	●	?	x	x	●	●	●	●	
Oceanscape	x	x	x	x	?	?	x	?	
CRISP	●	x	●	●	?	●	●	?	

Table 7: South-east Atlantic

Mechanism	Participation	Benefits to EU ORS AND OCTS						
		Funding	Technical Cooperation	Joint Projects	Info Sharing	Capacity Building	Policy Development	Other/ Comment
CCSBT	x	x	x	x	?	x	?	
ICCAT	● **	x	?	?	●	x	●	
SEAFO	x	x	?	x	?	x	●	
<i>Policies and multi-national programmes</i>								
SAISP	●	●	●	x	●	●	?	

2.2 Regional non-governmental mechanisms and programmes

A number of non-governmental mechanisms exist that have regional programmes, some that involve a number of the EU overseas entities (see Appendix 4 for more details).

INGOs that have a significant presence in the ORs and OCTs include:

- BirdLife and its work on Important Bird Areas (IBAs) which includes a number of EU OCTs in the South-Atlantic, Macaronesia, Oceania and Indian Ocean;
- CI's Biodiversity Hotspots with a number of regions where EU overseas entities are located;
- ICRAN's work in the Indian Ocean and Oceania;
- ICRI;
- IFAW's work in Macaronesia, Oceania and the Caribbean;
- IUCN; and
- WWF's 19 Priority Areas that encompasses the Arctic, Indian Ocean and Oceania.

Indigenous regional organizations or regional arms of INGOs by region include the following.

2.2.1 Arctic

The Inuit Circumpolar Council represents the Inuit communities of the Arctic and its principal goal is to safeguard the Arctic environment. WWF Denmark has a programme dedicated to Greenland.

2.2.2 Caribbean

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is particularly active in marine protected areas and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) has a very important programme in the Guiana Shield – WWF Guianas. The Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN) and Reef Check operate within the Caribbean and have been very effective programmes that bring together experts within and from outside the region to monitor reef health and to develop a database of information. A few regional and sub-regional NGOs exist such as the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA) Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI), the Eastern Caribbean Coalition for Environmental Awareness (ECCEA) and the Netherlands Islands Coral Reef Initiative (NACRI).

2.2.3 Indian Ocean

Apart from the INGOs operating in this region and mentioned above, the Western Indian Ocean Marine Scientific Association (WIOMSA) is one of the few indigenous regional NGOs. It is focused on sustainable use and conservation of marine resources.

2.2.4 Oceania

The Pacific again demonstrates a more coordinated regional approach. An indigenous regional body of NGOs exists – Pacific Islands Association of NGOs (PIANGO), which acts as a catalyst for collective action, to facilitate and support coalitions and alliances on issues of common concern, and to strengthen the

influence and impact of NGO efforts in the region. Other regional NGOs include the Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific International (FSPI) which is a network of community-based organizations for sustainable development who are members of PIANGO. Greenpeace Australia Pacific and WWF South Pacific are also part of PIANGO. Finally, many international NGOs also have regional offices and operate regional conservation programmes, e.g., The Nature Conservancy, IUCN and Conservation International, often in collaboration with regional NGOs.

2.2.5 South-Atlantic Ocean

The main regional NGO initiative is the RSPB's South Atlantic Invasive Species Initiative (SAISP). Very few regional approaches or NGOs operate in this region.

2.3 Bilateral and multilateral mechanisms in support of EU overseas entities

Appendix 4 contains a list of mechanisms in further detail.

A number of EU related mechanisms have been established within the last five – ten years to facilitate dialogue, decision-making and funding to the EU overseas entities. The EU now has an allocation within European Commission (EC) DG Development Cooperation-EuropeAid for OCTs. See Appendix 4 for how these funds are broken down. The CPMR already discussed in section 2.1.1 is another EU initiative focused on EU Islands. There is also the Overseas Countries and Territories of the European Union Association (OCTA) and The Annual Conference of Presidents of the ORs which gives respectively, OCTs and ORs an opportunity to directly influence EU decision-making in addition to going through their Member State governments. OCTA has a working group on Environment.

The EC facilitates two mechanisms in support of EU overseas entities. The first is the EU-OCT Forum,

which is coordinated by the DG Development Cooperation-EuropeAid. This forum meets annually and brings together OCT authorities, Member State representatives and the EC for dialogue. The second is the biennial Forum for Outermost Europe¹⁰, which is coordinated by the DG Regional Policy and was first held in May 2010 to raise awareness within European institutions of the ORs' specific needs.

NET-BIOME (*Networking Tropical and Subtropical Biodiversity Research in Outermost Regions and Territories of Europe in Support of Sustainable Development*) was established under the EU's 6th Framework Programme. NET-BIOME is a consortium of institutions in the EU overseas entities aimed at networking and consolidating regional research policies on sustainable management.

At a national level in the EU Member States, there are mechanisms for networking ORs and OCTs, such as the UK Overseas Territories Association (UKOTA) made up of UK based representatives from each of the UK OCTs. The UK OT Conservation Forum (UKOTCF) is a coordinating NGO for voluntary organizations, governments and NGOs in the UK and the OCTs on conservation and biodiversity. The main coordinating NGO body for Aruba and the Netherlands Antilles is the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA). The French National Committee for IUCN plays a networking role among actors in the ORs and OCTs of France.

A number of institutions from the EU Member States provide support to biodiversity research and conservation, such as IUCN National Committee of the Netherlands, French *Institut de Recherche pour le Développement* (French Research Institute for Development – IRD), which has extensive research capabilities and has bases and projects in French ORs and OCTs in the Pacific, Indian Ocean and French Guiana. The CRIOBE based in French Polynesia undertakes work in French Polynesian marine ecosystems. The UK's Kew Gardens and Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), as well as tertiary institutions such as the University of Cambridge, undertake conservation work, research and capacity building work in the UK OCTs.

¹⁰ ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/conferences/rup2010/index_en.htm

In the Caribbean region there are a few indigenous programmes aimed at working with the EU overseas entities of that region. There is the Project for the Marine Mammal Sanctuary in the French overseas entities (Agoa) which is supported by both NGOs and government departments. DCNA was established specifically to raise the profile and provide improved funding for protected area management in the Dutch OCTs. CANARI's project to build capacity of civil society organizations to improve implementation of the CBD is working with the UK OCTs of that region. The Netherlands Islands Coral Reef Initiative (NACRI) brings together organizations and agencies - public and private, concerned with coral reef conservation in the Dutch Caribbean.

2.4 Successful collaborative examples

Decision-making structures that promote integration: INTERREG III B/ PC-MAC for Azores-Madeira-Canary Islands

The Program MAC and its predecessor Interreg III B (see section 2.1.3) have been regarded as successful programmes integrating the Macaronesia region for biodiversity and climate change related activities, mainly due to the management structures established to facilitate the programme and the substantial funding made available.¹¹ A Management Committee includes representatives of each of the Member States alongside local administrations from the Azores, Canary Islands and Madeira. This committee decides on which projects to fund. A Joint Technical Secretariat is tasked with ensuring cooperation and partnership for the implementation of new policies or improved project implementation. The Secretariat was also responsible for promoting the programme.

Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA)

WIOMSA is regarded as a strong network because of its open and interdisciplinary membership. The Association prioritises capacity building of local practitioners and fosters linkages within and beyond the region.¹²

Important Intermediaries: example of French Research Institute for Exploitation of the Sea (IFREMER)

IFREMER is a public institute of industrial and commercial nature placed under the joint supervision of the Ministries for Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Development, Transport and Housing (MEDDTL), as well as Ministries of Higher Education and Research and Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. IFREMER, under the auspices of WECAFC, sponsors and facilitates two international expert Working Groups, one on Fish Aggregating Devices (FAD) out of its Martinique base/branch and one on Shrimp and Groundfish Resources in the Brazil-Guianas Shelf out of its French Guiana base/branch. In the Indian Ocean, the Reunion Island laboratory organised the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission's (IOTC) second workshop on billfish in 2001. For the first time, recommendations for managing these stocks were put forward.

Political cooperation for environmental management despite sovereignty dispute: Tromelin Island Co-management between Mauritius and France

A five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), drafted in 2009, now exists between the French and Mauritian governments for a 'regime of economic, scientific and environmental co-management' for Tromelin and its territorial sea, including its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

Tromelin Island is one of the Scattered Islands in the Indian Ocean under France's jurisdiction but disputed by Mauritius. It is uninhabited and located to the East of Madagascar. The MoU established a Co-Management Committee composed of an equal number of members from Mauritius and France that meet once a year and who are responsible to work out the co-management arrangements and operations. The agreement further outlines cooperation arrangements in monitoring, control and surveillance of illegal fishing and scientific assessments of fish stocks.

¹¹ António Abreu pers.comm. 09/2010

¹² Olivier Tyack pers. comm. 09/2010

3. Constraints, Obstacles and Opportunities

The previous sections clearly show a complex landscape of decision-making bodies and mechanisms within the various regions at a range of levels. However, the participation of, and more so the benefits to, EU overseas entities are patchy.

Some general observations:

- Pitcairn (UK – Oceania), Chagos (UK – Indian Ocean), possibly Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (UK – Austral Ocean) and Saint Pierre and Miquelon (France – Arctic) seem to be left out of almost all regional bodies and initiatives identified. Some reasons for the obstacles to their integration are discussed below;
- Programmes developed within the respective regions appear to have been a bit better at integrating ORs and OCTs as opposed to UN-based and other intergovernmental bodies;
- Although NGO lead programmes seem to have been better at integrating EU overseas entities (where effort is made) they still suffer from the constraints and obstacles identified below.

3.1 Constraints and obstacles

3.1.1 Geopolitical complexity and discord

The range of geopolitical associations that territories have as ORs and OCTs and the diversity of the political systems in each EU Member State add to the complexity of regional integration. For example, the Caribbean has three different groupings of EU overseas entities (France, Netherlands and UK), however not all of them participate in the various regional associations and political bodies in the same capacity. Different groupings participate in different bodies and there are only a few amongst the plethora of regional bodies in which they all participate alongside the independent states (ACS and SPAW/RAC).

Geopolitical disputes over sovereignty, as is the case in a number of island OCTs in the Indian Ocean – such as the disputes over Mayotte (France) by the Comoros Islands State and the Chagos archipelago (UK) by the Republic of Mauritius¹³, have created significant discord that debilitates regional integration and decision-making processes. Madagascar, Mauritius and Comoros have disputed territories with France and hence they tend to stand united in the same battle against the previous colonial power. In this situation, it is unlikely that there will be cooperation at a policy level or development of joint projects unless some solution or change in the political issues can be made. However, the example in section 2.2 on Tromelin Island shows that some solutions can be overcome despite political disputes, but perhaps less contentious.

3.1.2 Participation and the perception of benefits from participation

Decision-making bodies, particularly those established under the UN, such as the Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMO) listed in section 2.1.2, involve ORs and OCTs through the EU Member State. Therefore, EU overseas entities are generally not required to participate although many have environmental competencies. In preparation for RFMO international meetings, local institutions in the EU overseas entities are often asked by the EU Member State whether they have issues to raise¹⁴, though this is often perfunctory and such participation is not a priority, neither for the Member State nor for the ORs and OCTs.

With regard to RFMOs and large scale regional organizations, while a lack of interest to participate is understandable, small EU overseas entities may feel that they have little power to influence governance and that benefits will flow regardless of input, however non-participation undermines approaches

13 Government of Mauritius (2010). Oral Answer to Question: Chagos Archipelago and Tromelin Island – Mauritius Sovereignty. 18 Jan 2010. www.gov.mu/portal/goc/assemblysite/file/pnqans18jan10.pdf

14 Bertrand Lettsome pers. comm. 08/2010 re: BVI participation in ICCAT;

for trans-boundary ecosystem-based management of biodiversity and natural resources.¹⁵ In addition, a lack of participation alongside other Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the region marginalises the importance of small-scale fisheries in relation to other marine space users (ibid). The above issues are not just a problem of the EU overseas entities and are also a feature of SIDS participation in international organizations.

3.1.3 Disconnect between policy and implementation

While OCTs participate in decision-making bodies as 'associate' states and help to shape regional policy in some regional institutions, their unusual sovereignty arrangements means that they often cannot participate at a practical level in terms of receiving funding, technical support and undertaking joint projects. In a few instances, this problem has been overcome with complementary funding from the EU Member State or the EC to extend programme benefits to the OCTs. This was the case for example with the GEF-funded project implemented by the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC), where DFID provided complementary funding to extend programme benefits for Caribbean UK OTs¹⁶. Although the CCCCC is committed to developing collaboration with other territories in the region, and has been holding discussions to that effect, this still leaves out the Dutch OCTs and French ORs and OCTs in the region.

3.1.4 Strong ties to EU State

Where ORs and OCTs have strong links to the EU Member State, e.g. communication, trade, cultural links and administrative bodies, in many cases this has suppressed the need for regional cooperation. In the case of the ORs, their close ties to France, Spain and Portugal mean that they feel closer to the EU Member State than to their regional neighbours. While these closer ties mean that ORs generally have good

resources to address biodiversity and climate change needs in comparison to those in the rest of the region – both financial and human, it can often mean that the need and demand for regional integration is lacking. In addition, the EU Member States do not collaborate much among themselves, which adds to an issue.

3.1.5 Geographical isolation

Geographical isolation and, to some extent, small size (and therefore capacity), have undoubtedly played a part in undermining the participation of ORs and OCTs in regional cooperation mechanisms. The UK OCTs of the South-east Atlantic and Pitcairn in the Oceania region illustrate this. All four territories are small in population size and in extremely remote locations. In the case of the south-east Atlantic, this also means that they have closer ties to the UK than with each other (see point above). Transport and communication are also a challenge. Isolation also applies to French Guiana which is an isolated OR within a continent of independent States, most of which have a strong regional identity.

3.1.6 Institutions struggling to adopt ecosystem-based and regional approaches

Organizations set up originally with a mandate of serving countries within a region from one language group or with particular cultural links (either implicit or explicit), such as CARICOM, have established patterns of communication and collaboration and it requires a cultural shift for them to become more inclusive. Such organizations that now have to take on an environment mandate are also un-familiar with using a broader eco-regional approach to integration. Without a broader approach, their geographic scope is often too small and therefore limiting in their impact.¹⁷ The situation is however more encouraging in the Pacific Region, where regional institutions have adopted a Pacific Plan, including a number of regional strategies in the area of biodiversity conservation, climate change and marine resource management.

15 Chakalall, B, R. Mahon, P. McConney, L. Nurse and D. Oderson (2007) Governance of fisheries and other living marine resources in the Wider Caribbean. Fisheries Research 87, 92-99 pp.

16 DFID, (2007). Enhancing capacity for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Caribbean UK Overseas Territories. A programme linking the UKOTs in the Caribbean with Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) regional programmes. Project Memorandum. DFID and Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre

17 Chakalall, B, R. Mahon, P. McConney, L. Nurse and D. Oderson (2007) Governance of fisheries and other living marine resources in the Wider Caribbean. Fisheries Research 87 92-99 pp.

3.1.7 Language

Although more of an issue in the past, language barriers are still a hindrance to exploring opportunities for regional integration. Regional organizations are gradually overcoming this issue by recruiting multilingual staff, but on a practical level it still prevents technocrats from communicating and sharing lessons. It also prevents isolated territories like Pitcairn and French Guiana from participating regionally. If regionalism is a priority, more needs to be done to make language skills at all levels a political commitment.

3.2 Opportunities

3.2.1 Sharing knowledge and technical expertise

A number of territories have good technical expertise in biodiversity and climate change related areas. Due to their close links to the EU Member state, that could be made more available and could form the basis for closer collaboration and integration with their regional neighbours.¹⁸ New Caledonia, for example, which is a 'biodiversity goldmine', has attracted a lot of technical cooperation from France as well as neighbouring Australia and New Zealand. Internationally developed regional programmes sponsored by inter-governmental and non-governmental agencies are also keen to include New Caledonia because of its biodiversity importance. The presence of important biodiversity resources in ORs and OCTs should also be regionally celebrated and not just the flagship of the EU state. By the same token, EU overseas entities have a lot to learn from their regional neighbours on decentralised management of natural resources such as community-based and participatory approaches.¹⁹

3.2.2 ORs and OCTs continue to take the lead in initiating regional projects

Linked to the point above, ORs and OCTs have successfully established regional programmes through which they can share expertise and lessons with their neighbours. This can be seen with the SPAW/RAC programme based in Guadeloupe and the Transboundary programme for the Guianas based in French Guiana. Institutions in the EU overseas entities should be encouraged to adopt and promote similar initiatives, using a variety of mechanisms, including those available within the EC (INTERREG programme)

3.2.3 Coordinating regional programme delivery with EU Member States

At the time of development of region-wide programmes, it would make sense for implementing and donor agencies to consult with the EU Member States to get their buy-in both politically and financially to facilitate the participation of EU overseas entities in that region. This would undoubtedly add a layer to negotiations but could also provide additional funding and technical support to regional programmes. This can be successfully demonstrated by the CCCCC programme in the Caribbean, already mentioned above.

¹⁸ Dominique Benzaken, pers. comm. 09/2010.

¹⁹ Ibid.

4. Recommendations

4.1 To local and national governments

- Prioritise regional collaboration on biodiversity and adaptation to climate change in national processes, given the shared threats;
- Adopt a more pro-active approach to facilitate the integration of EU overseas entities. This could be done by:
 - Initiating regional projects from ORs and OCTs to their neighbours (this is being done in the case of Reunion, and recently ORs – Guadeloupe and French Guiana – in the Caribbean);
 - Participating actively and with a purpose of ‘regionalism’ in regional and international decision-making forums;
 - National governments having a greater awareness of regional programmes, preferably in the development stage so that steps can be taken to ensure ORT participation and support;
 - Coordinating local/national programmes with on-going and proposed regional programmes. This may mean ensuring that there is an allocation towards the financial participation of local governmental departments and staff in regional work or that local governments negotiate with the EU Member State for funding to facilitate their participation;
 - Making more effort to ensure that the overseas entities which appear totally divorced from their region (see section 3) find some way of collaborating with their neighbours.

4.2 To regional organizations and conventions

- Recognise and understand the constraints that ORs and OCTs have in participating in regional mechanisms and take steps to facilitate their involvement – politically and financially. This may mean additional planning time and an added layer of negotiations;
- Harmonize policies and organizational mandates. Sustained and increased support for the work of coordinating bodies, such as CROP in the Pacific, seems appropriate.

4.3 To the EC

- Adopt a different approach towards the EU overseas entities, which the EU seems to treat purely as ‘islands’ in the EU system. While their context as an ‘island’ is really important, islands also need to be treated as part of a region (e.g. in the case of the Macaronesian islands) i.e. continental and coastal continental regions from which they share eco-regional and probably cultural and economic links. It might be useful to foster those links through EC programmes;
- Create greater awareness of regional led programmes so that EC support can be relevant and supportive of the participation of EU overseas entities early on.

4.4 To the Secretariat of the CBD

- Although CBD is responsible to the individual member parties, it is also equally concerned with ecosystem wide approaches to biological conservation. If the COP were to hold eco-regional meetings, ORs and OCTs could be mandated to participate as members of that eco-region;
- CBD could prioritise and devolve some of its work or functions to organizations such as SPAW/CEP in the Caribbean which might help regional buy in of SPAW, increase its influence and take advantage of regional knowledge and approaches to improve CBD implementation;
- As with the point in 4.2, the CBD could assist in the harmonization of policies and organizational mandates. This would seem appropriate considering the overlapping and complex organizational landscape in a number of regions;
- The CBD Secretariat could play a more active role in raising awareness of the importance of the biodiversity of EU overseas entities among Parties and partners.

4.5 To IUCN

- Raise awareness with EU overseas entities, the EU and the international community of the unique assets of these entities and their vulnerability to climate change and the opportunities afforded by regional action:
 - Facilitate/advocate better integration of their issues within EU policies and programmes;
 - Provide a forum for dialogue and information sharing;
- Continue the current development of GLISPA as it could be a platform for facilitating and advocating the recommendations above (4.1 – 4.5).

4.6 To other actors

- Advocate for above – and particularly the fostering of a culture for regionalism.

Appendix 1. Main Intergovernmental Organizations and Policies

A1.1 Arctic and Austral Oceans

Political and economic IGOs

Arctic Council (AC)²⁰ was formally established by the Ottawa Declaration of 1996 as an intergovernmental forum to provide a means for promoting cooperation, coordination and interaction among the Arctic States. Its focus is to involve the Arctic indigenous communities on issues of sustainable development and environmental protection in the Arctic. The seven Member states include Denmark but do not include France (or Saint Pierre and Miquelon).

Nordic Council of Ministers²¹ represents the main Nordic Countries including Denmark and Greenland. The Council of Ministers operates closely with the Nordic Council which is the forum of Nordic parliaments. Saint Pierre and Miquelon is not involved.

Antarctic Treaty Secretariat²² was established in September 2004 by the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM) and is based in Buenos Aires, Argentina. There are 46 countries that own bases in Antarctica and the Secretariat helps exchange of information between parties of the Antarctic Treaty and other countries. France and UK are members.

IGOs with a biodiversity and climate change mandate

Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) is a programme of the Arctic Council established in June 1991 by Ministers of the eight Arctic countries (Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Federation of Russia, Sweden and U.S.A.). The primary objective is to measure the levels of anthropogenic pollutants and their effects in all

relevant compartments of the Arctic environment - atmospheric, terrestrial, freshwater and marine environments, and human health.

Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF)²³ is also a programme of the Arctic Council that aims to involve indigenous and local people in the use of traditional ecological knowledge; use broad, ecosystem-based approaches to conservation and management; and foster cooperation with other conservation initiatives to minimize duplication and increase effectiveness. The **Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program (CBMP)**²⁴ is an international network and a cornerstone of CAFF's work.

Protection of Arctic Marine Environment (PAME)²⁵ first established under the 1991 Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy and continued by the 1996 Ottawa Charter. PAME is the focal point of the Arctic Council's activities related to the protection and sustainable use of the arctic marine environment.

Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)²⁶ was founded in 1979 and focuses on all fishery except salmon, tunas/marlins, whales, and shellfish. In 2007 the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries broadened NAFO's mandate to include all fishery resources. Ratification is still in progress.

North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO)²⁷ focuses on conservation, management and study of all species of cetaceans and pinnipeds (seals and walrus) in the North Atlantic. NAMMCO was established by the Agreement on Cooperation in Research, Conservation and Management of Marine Mammals in the North Atlantic, which entered into

20 www.arctic-council.org

21 www.norden39.ru/en

22 www.ats.aq/index_e.htm

23 caff.arcticportal.org

24 cbmp.arcticportal.org

25 www.pame.is

26 www.nafo.int

27 www.fao.org/fishery/rfb/nammco/en

force in July 1992. Greenland is a member but Saint Pierre and Miquelon is not.

North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) contributes to the conservation and management of salmon stocks that migrate beyond areas of fisheries jurisdiction of coastal states north of 36°N. It was established by the Convention for the Conservation of Salmon in the North Atlantic Ocean, which entered into force in October 1983. Neither Denmark, Greenland, Saint Pierre and Miquelon, or France is a member.

Austral Ocean

Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)²⁸ manages the marine resources of the Southern Ocean (delimited by the Antarctic Convergence) and is the Secretariat for the management of the 1982 Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Living Resources aimed at managing krill catches in the Southern Ocean on which marine life in the Antarctic is dependent upon.

Policies

Antarctic Treaty System²⁹ entered into force in June 1961. It includes a number of related international agreements that determine operational and scientific cooperation between nations based in Antarctica. A number of biodiversity related agreements have since been adopted:

- Protocol on Environmental Protection for the Antarctic Treaty (1991);³⁰
- Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Fauna and Flora (1982);
- Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (1980);
- Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Seals (1972).

A1.2 Caribbean

Political and economic IGOs

Association of Caribbean States (ACS)³¹ was formed to promote 'regionalism' amongst the Member states. The main goals of the Association are to accentuate the common interests of Caribbean nations (economic development, transport and environment) and to eliminate barriers left from its colonial past. ACS aims to reaffirm the concept of the Caribbean Basin as a region. The Convention establishing the ACS was signed in July 1994. Aruba, the former Netherlands Antilles, France (on behalf of its ORs in the region: French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Saint Barthelemy and Saint Martin) and Turks and Caicos have 'associate member' status. The other UK OCTs have no membership status, although the UK has 'observer' status.

Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America (ALBA) is based on the idea of social, political, and economic integration between the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. The alliance is based on a vision of social welfare, exchange of goods and services and mutual economic aid as an alternative to trade liberalization. None of the EU ORs and OCTs in the Caribbean or Guiana Shield belongs to this body; only a few Caribbean nations are currently members.

Caribbean Community (CARICOM)³² represents 15 Caribbean nations and territories established by the Treaty of Chaguaramas in 1973. CARICOM's purpose is to promote economic integration and cooperation among its members and ensure that integration is equitably shared. CARICOM manages the CARICOM Single Market. Within the last 20 years, the UK OCTs joined as 'associate' members but it is not established what the role of the associate member will be. The territories of the former Netherlands Antilles are 'observer' members which means that they engage in at least one of the CARICOM technical committees. The French ORs are not associated with CARICOM.

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)³³ is one of the five regional commissions of the United Nations which was

28 www.ccamlr.org

29 www.ats.aq/e/ats.htm

30 www.ats.aq/e/ep.htm

31 www.acs-aec.org/about.htm

32 www.caricom.org

33 www.eclac.org

established in February 1948. Its purpose is to contribute to the economic and social development of Latin America, coordinating development actions, and reinforcing economic ties among countries and with other nations of the world. ECLAC has a Division dealing with 'Sustainable Development' and 'Natural Resources'. Aruba, the former Netherlands Antilles and UK OTs in the Caribbean are all associate members. French ORs are not members, but France is a member.

Organization of American States (OAS)³⁴ includes 35 independent states of the Americas and its purpose is to achieve peace, justice and to promote the solidarity and strengthen collaboration between the states of the Americas. The organization was established by Charter which took effect in December 1951. Only the independent states of the Caribbean belong to the inter-governmental organization. The EU ORs and OCTs are therefore not members.

Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)³⁵ was created in June 1981, with the Treaty of Basseterre and focuses on the economic harmonisation and integration, protection of human and legal rights, and the encouragement of good governance between countries and dependencies in the Eastern Caribbean. The nine members of the OECS include the UK OCTs of Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, and Montserrat as 'associate' members. As a result, diplomatic missions of the OECS do not represent these States. For the purposes of further discussing the membership, they are treated as equals of the full members.

Guiana Shield

Geographically, this region is a bridge between the Caribbean and South American regions. As demonstrated above, the Guianas also sit within the Wider Caribbean region – geographically as well as politically. Organizations that apply just to the Guiana Shield are listed below.

Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO)³⁶ is aimed at the promotion of sustainable development

of the Amazon Basin. Its members include eight Amazonian countries. The Amazon Cooperation Treaty (ACT) was signed in July 1978 and amended in 1998. ACTO was created in 1995 to strengthen the implementation of the Treaty. Neither French Guiana nor France is an ACTO member.

Mercado Común del Sur (Common Market of the South - MERCOSUR) is a Regional Trade Agreement (RTA) between four South American States founded in 1991 by the Treaty of Asunción, which was later amended and updated by the 1994 Treaty of Ouro Preto. Five other South American states have associate membership. Neither French Guiana nor any EU overseas entities have membership.

Policies

Amazon Cooperation Treaty³⁷ (see OCTA section 2.1.1) is an agreement to undertake joint actions to promote harmonious development, conservation and rational utilization of the natural resources of each Amazonian country. Neither French Guiana nor France is a signatory.

IGOs with a biodiversity and climate change mandate

Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI)³⁸ was established by CARICOM in 1975. Although this IGO does not have an overall mandate for biodiversity and climate change, it conducted work in 1995/6 - 1998 (funded by FAO) in plant genetic resources: this included germplasm collection, seed technology and a regional database that was linked up with the International Board of Plant Genetic Resources criteria. As with CARICOM, CARDI also works with the UKOTs but has also made links with the French ORs at a programmatic level.

Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) provides climate change-related policy advice and guidelines to the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Member States. Opened in August 2005, the Centre is recognised as the focal point for climate change issues in the Caribbean by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP),

34 www.oas.org/en/default.asp

35 www.oecs.org

36 www.otca.org.br

37 www.otca.org.br/en/institucional/index.php?id=29

38 www.cardi.org/default.asp?id=1

and other international agencies. UK and Dutch OCTs have associate and observer membership in CARICOM (see Section 2.1.1). Project benefits were extended to UK OCTs through a MoU providing DFID funding to support UK OCT participation³⁹.

Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP) is one of the UNEP administered Regional Seas Programmes. The CEP is managed by and for the countries of the Wider Caribbean Region through the Caribbean Action Plan (1981) outlining regional environmental challenges. The CEP provides the programmatic framework for the 1983 Cartagena Convention. All UK and Dutch OCTs are members but French ORs are not. CEP coordinates the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Management Network (CaMPAM)⁴⁰.

CARICOM Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM)⁴¹ launched in March 2003 to promote and facilitate the responsible use of fisheries and aquatic resources. It consists of three layers – the Ministerial Council of member states, the Caribbean Fisheries Forum and the Secretariat. Anguilla, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos are the only overseas entity members.

Commission for Inland Fisheries of Latin America (COPESCAL)⁴² promotes programmes of research and development leading to support of regulatory and conservation measures as well as the improvement of inland fishery resources. COPESCAL was established in 1976 by the FAO Council. Neither France, UK, the Netherlands, French Guiana or the EU Island ORs or OCTs are members.

FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean represents 33 member nations but does not include the EU overseas entities.

Latin America Organization for Fishery Development (OLDEPESCA)⁴³. Its purpose is to sustainably use Latin American fishery resource for the benefit of Latin American peoples. The Constitutional Agreement of the Latin American Organization for Fisheries Development entered into force in November 1984. Neither France nor French Guiana is a member.

OECS Environment and Sustainable Development Unit (ESDU) – is the environment and natural resources arm of the OECS. UK OCTs of Anguilla, BVI and Montserrat are members.

UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC)⁴⁴ is active through the Forum of Ministers of Latin America and the Caribbean that meet every 2 – 3 years. Priority areas include climate change, ecosystem management, and biodiversity. ROLAC supports governments to implement MEAs and international environmental programmes. EU overseas entities are not represented.

Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC) promotes the effective conservation, management and development of the living marine resources of the area in accordance with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. WECAFC was established in 1973 by the FAO Council (amended in 1978 and 2006). The EU, France, the Netherlands and the UK are members.

Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO)'s programme of the last decade has been heavily focused on conservation and sustainable use of the Amazon environment. There is a Biodiversity programme, and a recently concluded programme on sustainable management of transboundary water resources in the context of climate change and variability. This was funded by GEF and implemented in partnership with UNEP and OAS⁴⁵.

A1.3 Indian Ocean

Political and economic IGOs

Common Market of Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) is a preferential trading area with nineteen member states. COMESA formed in December 1994, replacing a Preferential Trade Area which had existed since 1981. Madagascar, Mauritius and the Seychelles are members but the EU overseas entities are not.

39 www.ukotcf.org/pdf/climateChangeMemo260307.pdf

40 campam.gcfi.org/campam.php

41 www.caricom-fisheries.com/Default.aspx

42 www.fao.org/fishery/rfb/copescal/en

43 www.oldepesca.com

44 www.pnuma.org/ing/AboutUNEP.php

45 www.otca.info/gefam

Indian Ocean Commission (IOC/COI)⁴⁶ joins Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, France (for Reunion), and the Seychelles together to encourage cooperation. It was started in January 1984 under the General Victoria Agreement. Its main goals are to support political and economic cooperation; sustainable development and promotion of a regional identity. Reunion is the only EU overseas entity to be a part of the IOC. As an OCT, Mayotte cannot be a part of IOC but as of 2011 Mayotte will become a French department and so can join.

Indian Ocean Rim-Association for Regional Cooperation (IOR-ARC)⁴⁷, initially known as the Indian Ocean Rim Initiative, includes 18 member states and was established in March 1995. The Association supports trade and investment, especially intra-regional trade within the region through information exchange. EU overseas entities are not members. Island nations in the region are members. France and the UK are dialogue members.

Southern African Development Community (SADC) is the largest and arguably the most integrated of all of the African trade blocks (in terms of regional cooperation and the mutual benefit of the members). The SADC Member States are the Southern African countries as well as Madagascar and Mauritius. The EU overseas entities are not members.

IGOs with a biodiversity and climate change mandate

IOC Environment Programme⁴⁸, which has a number of ongoing programmes under its Environment portfolio: (1) Adaptation to Climate Change (2008 – 2011) funded for a total of 3.645 million euro from the European Development Fund (EDF), French Fund for World Environment (FFEM) and French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (MAEE); (2) Sustainable management of the coastal zone (RECOMAP 18 million euro); (3) Coral reef monitoring; (4) Regional network of MPAs (2006-2009), funded for a total of 2 million euro by FFEM and MAEE, WWF and CI. Reunion is the only EU ORT that participates in the IOC.

Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)⁴⁹ established in 1993 is mandated to manage tuna and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean and adjacent seas. It aims to promote cooperation among its members towards conservation and sustainable development of fisheries. Members and associate members include those located within the area and those who engage in fishing in the Area. Regional members include Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, and the Seychelles. France and the UK are also members.

South Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) ensures the conservation and sustainable use of fishery resources other than tuna in areas that fall outside national jurisdictions. An FAO conference of Plenipotentiaries for the Adoption of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement held in July 2006 adopted the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA). The agreement has not yet entered into force.

South West Indian Ocean Commission for Fisheries (SWIOFC)⁵⁰ main objective is to promote the sustainable utilization of all living marine resources of the South West Indian Ocean region through management and development of the marine resources, as well as to address common problems of fisheries management. SWIOFC was adopted by the FAO Council in 2004. France is a member but its overseas entities are not. UK is not a member.

A1.4 Macaronesia

Conference of Peripheral and Maritime Regions of Europe (CPMR/CRPM)⁵¹ is focused on helping to improve the global positioning of the peripheral maritime regions of Europe. Areas addressed include transport, research and development, sustainable development and employment and training. Macaronesian countries would fall under the Atlantic Arc Commission⁵² but they are not members. They are members of the Islands Commission⁵³ which also include other EU overseas entities such as Reunion, Martinique and Guadeloupe. CPMR is linked to the

46 www.coi-ioc.org

47 www.iornet.com

48 www.coi-ioc.org/index.php?id=47

49 www.iotc.org

50 www.fao.org/fishery/rfb/swiofc/en

51 www.crpm.org/index.php?act=1

52 arcatlantique.org/

Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development (nrg4SD)⁵⁴.

Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF)⁵⁵ promotes the sustainable utilization of the living marine resources of the Eastern and Central Atlantic. CECAF was established in 1967, by the FAO Council. The Azores, Canary Islands and Madeira are not members. The EU, France and Spain are members, but Portugal is not.

A1.5 Oceania

Political and economic IGOs

Pacific Community or Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)⁵⁶ aims to develop the technical, professional, scientific, planning and management capability of Pacific Island people. Founded by the Canberra Agreement charter in 1947, membership includes all EU OCTs in the region. The headquarters of the Secretariat is based in New Caledonia.

Pacific Islands Forum⁵⁷ enhances cooperation between the independent countries of the Pacific Ocean and represents their interests in development and economic policy, trade and investment and political and international affairs. Membership includes both north and south Pacific island countries, Australia and New Zealand. French OCTs of French Polynesia, New Caledonia and Wallis and Futuna are associate members. The UK OCT of Pitcairn is not a member. The UK as well as France and the EU are 'dialogue' partners. The Forum is also a member of APEC: the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation⁵⁸. The forum is also the focal point for the EU regional investment.

Pacific Islands Development Programme (PIDP)⁵⁹ provides professional services and research information to Pacific Island governments. The organization is based at the East-West centre in Hawaii. French

Polynesia and New Caledonia are members but Wallis and Futuna and Pitcairn are not.

IGOs with a biodiversity and climate change mandate

Forum Fisheries Association (FFA)⁶⁰ aims to manage and conserve tuna resources of the South Pacific islands Exclusive Economic Zones and beyond through enhancing national capacity and strengthening regional solidarity. FFA was established by the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency Convention and entered into force in August 1979.

Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC)⁶¹ focuses on sustainable use of the fish stocks in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. It was established by international convention in 1950. Since 1976, the IATTC has implemented a programme on tuna dolphin relationship and since 1992 it has developed an International Dolphin Conservation Programme (AIDCP) aiming at progressively reducing dolphin mortality in tuna fishing. The IATTC also serves as the Secretariat for the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Programme. None of the EU overseas entities are members although Pitcairn and French Polynesia fall within the Convention area. France is a member country. The EU is a cooperating non-party.

Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)⁶² promotes cooperation, supports protection and improvement of the Pacific islands environment, and ensures its sustainable development. SPREP is part of CROP. SPREP is the focal point in the region for the implementation of the biodiversity conventions (MEAs and the UNEP regional seas programme). SPREP's two main programmes⁶³ are *Island Ecosystems* and *Pacific Futures*. The first focuses on conserving threatened species, reducing the impact of alien invasive species and building capacities to sustain ecosystems. The second focuses on improved environmental governance and capacity building to deal with climate change. France and its individual

53 www.islandscommission.org/en

54 www.nrg4sd.org/about_us

55 www.fao.org/fishery/rfb/cecaf/en

56 www.spc.int

57 www.forumsec.org.fj

58 www.apec.org

59 www.eastwestcenter.org/pacific-islands-development-program

60 www.fao.org/fishery/rfb/ffa/en

61 www.iattc.org

62 www.sprep.org

63 www.sprep.org/programme/programme.htm

OCTs of French Polynesia, New Caledonia and Wallis and Futuna are members of SPREP. The UK nor its OCT in that region are members.

South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC)'s⁶⁴ work focuses on providing assistance to its 20 member countries in three key programme areas: Ocean and Islands Programme, Community Lifelines Programme and Community Risk Programme. French Polynesia and New Caledonia are associate members. Wallis and Futuna and Pitcairn are not members.

SPC (see Section 2.1.1) **Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems (FAME)** division of SPC has two main work programmes. The Oceanic Fisheries Programme (OFB) focuses on the management of the tuna and billfish resources using the best available scientific information. The Coastal Fisheries Programme (CFP) focuses on the sustainable management of coastal fisheries, nearshore fisheries and aquaculture in Pacific Island Countries and Territories through promoting a participatory and consultative approach, involving relevant stakeholders, with a strong focus on building capacity.

South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (SPRFMO)⁶⁵ was established under UNCLOS in April 2010 but it has not yet come into force. It aims to address the existing gap in the international conservation and management of non-highly migratory fisheries and protection of biodiversity in the marine environment extending from the most eastern part of the South Indian Ocean through the Pacific towards the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) of South America.

Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC)⁶⁶ for conservation and sustainable use of highly migratory fish stocks in the western and central Pacific Ocean in accordance with the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and the 1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement. The WCPFC was established by the Convention for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and

Central Pacific Ocean (WCPF Convention) which entered into force in June 2004. French Polynesia, New Caledonia, and Wallis and Futuna Islands have 'participating territory' membership.

Policies

Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the Pacific Islands Region. An initial strategy was produced for 2003-2007⁶⁷ out of the 7th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas. The **Pacific Island Roundtable for Nature Conservation**⁶⁸ (see Appendix 3), established in 1997 has become the mechanism for promoting, facilitating and monitoring the implementation of the Action Strategy. In 2007 the strategy was reviewed and a strengthened Action Strategy was developed for conservation for 2008 - 2012. The Action Strategy and Roundtable was first facilitated by SPREP and now is coordinated by IUCN Regional Office for Oceania. The development of the strategy and the Roundtable was funded by NZAID, ADB and the WB⁶⁹.

Pacific Plan⁷⁰ is a framework of greater regional cooperation and integration that is coordinated by the PIF. The Plan is based on four 'pillars': economic growth; sustainable development; good governance; and security to achieve improved living standards, increase access to opportunity and stimulate pro-poor growth for the peoples of the Pacific. The plan aims to be flexible to allow for nationally appropriate efforts to achieve the Plan's goals. The Pacific Plan was endorsed by Forum Leaders at their Pacific Islands Forum Meeting in October 2005.

Pacific Islands Regional Ocean Policy⁷¹: In 1999 the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders endorsed the development and implementation of a Regional Ocean Policy as a means to implement the Law of the Sea Convention. The Marine Sector Working Group of CROP produced a policy in 2001/2002 which was updated in 2004. In 2005, the Pacific Islands Regional Ocean Framework for Integrated Strategic Action (PIROFISA) was developed.

64 www.sopac.org

65 www.southpacificrfmo.org

66 www.wcpfc.int

67 www.pbif.org/RT/actionstrategy.pdf

68 www.iucn.org/about/union/secretariat/offices/oceania/roundtable

69 www.sprep.org/topic/Biodiv-review.htm

70 www.forumsec.org.fj/pages.cfm/strategic-partnerships-coordination/pacific-plan

71 www.forumsec.org.fj/resources/uploads/attachments/documents/PIROP.pdf

Pacific Oceanscape Strategy⁷²: In August 2010 the Pacific Islands Forum endorsed a draft framework for the long-term, sustainable, and cooperative management of 38.5 million km² surrounding their collective islands. The strategy aims to address all ocean issues from governance to climate change, as well as design policies and implement practices that will improve ocean health, increase resources and expertise, and encourage governments to factor ocean issues into decisions about economic and sustainable development. The strategy will receive technical and scientific support from Conservation International.⁷³

A1.6 South-Atlantic Ocean

Southeast Atlantic Fisheries Organization (SEAFO)⁷⁴

purpose is the conservation and sustainable use of the fishery resources in the South East Atlantic through implementation of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Fishery Resources in the South East Atlantic Ocean which entered into force in April 2003. EU is a member, and neither the UK nor the UK OCT of St. Helena, Ascension, Tristan is a member.

A1.7 Multi-regional institutions

Asia Pacific Fishery Commission (APFIC)⁷⁵

promotes the full and proper utilization of living aquatic resources of the Asia-Pacific area by the development and management of fishing and culture operations. APFIC was drawn up by Governments under the aegis of FAO and came into force in November 1948. EU ORs and OCTs are not members.

Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT)⁷⁶

ensures the conservation and optimum utilisation of the global Southern Bluefin Tuna resource. CCSBT was established by the Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna, which entered into force on 20 May 1994. EU countries

and EU overseas entities are not members. Regions covered by this Commission include: Indian Ocean; Oceania; South Atlantic.

International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)

is responsible for the conservation of tunas and tuna-like species in the Atlantic Ocean and adjacent seas. About 30 species of tuna and tuna-like species are of direct concern to the ICCAT as well as other fish species that are caught during tuna fishing (principally sharks). ICCAT was established by the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas which entered into force in March 1969 (amended 1992). France is a member on behalf of Saint Pierre and Miquelon; UK is a member on behalf of UK OCTs. Denmark is not a member. ICCAT covers: Arctic, Austral, Caribbean, Guiana Shield, Macaronesia and Southeast Atlantic regions.

The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)⁷⁷

is a scientific and research organization for the provision of information and advice to member countries and international bodies on marine research on oceanography, the marine environment, the marine ecosystem, and on living marine resources in the North Atlantic. It was established by the Convention for the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, which entered into force in July 1968. EU overseas entities are not members. Denmark, Portugal, Spain and UK are members. Regions covered by this Council are: Arctic and Macaronesia.

North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC)⁷⁸

ensures conservation and sustainable use of fish, molluscs, crustaceans and shellfish as well as highly migratory species (listed in Appendix I of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea) and anadromous stocks. NEAFC was established by the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in Northeast Atlantic Fisheries which entered into force in March 1982 (amended 2006). Denmark (in respect of Greenland) and the EU are members. Regions covered include: Arctic and Macaronesia.

⁷² See paragraph 68 at www.forumsec.org.fj/pages.cfm/newsroom/press-statements/2010/communique-of-41st-pacific-islands-forum.html

⁷³ www.conservation.org/newsroom/pressreleases/Pages/Pacific_Oceanscape_creation.aspx

⁷⁴ www.seafo.org

⁷⁵ www.apfic.org

⁷⁶ www.ccsbt.org

⁷⁷ www.ices.dk/indexfla.asp

⁷⁸ www.neafc.org

Appendix 2. Main Regional Multi-National Programmes

Arctic

Arctic Biodiversity Assessment (ABA) will provide a baseline of the Arctic's ecosystems and biodiversity and provide a basis to inform and guide future Arctic Council work. The first deliverable of the ABA is: Arctic Biodiversity Trends 2010: Selected Indicators of Change - a preliminary assessment of status and trends. ABA is linked to CAFF's CBMP (see section 2.1.2). Financial support has been provided to this project from Canada, Finland, Sweden, the Nordic Council of Ministers and UNEP/GRID-Arendal.

Caribbean and Guiana Shield

ACS Caribbean Sea Initiative/Commission⁷⁹ is working towards forming a coalition among member states to designate the Caribbean Sea (as defined by the Cartagena Convention) as a UN special zone, The Caribbean Sea Commission was established in 2008 but has yet to operationalise its work. ACS recently secured funding from the Government of Finland for US\$129,571 towards the hosting of an Expert Consultation Conference entitled 'Operationalisation of the Caribbean Sea Commission'⁸⁰.

Sustainable Governance of the Caribbean Sea⁸¹ is a project of the Academic Council of the United Nations System (ACUNS). It aims to explore the prospects for sustainable, integrated regional governance of the Caribbean Sea by studying the linkages that exist horizontally, linking sectoral stakeholders across and within borders as well as vertically to the views of relevant state and civil society stakeholders. The project seeks to support the work of the Caribbean Sea Commission.

Caribbean

Agoa: Project for the Marine Mammal Sanctuary in the French West Indies⁸² aims to make the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) of the French West Indies a sanctuary for cetaceans. This would extend protection to 200 marine miles from the shores of French Caribbean overseas entities. The project was initiated by ECCEA (Eastern Caribbean Coalition for Environmental Awareness), and is promoted by AET (Association Evasion Tropicale) and Breach in Guadeloupe as well as SEPANMAR in Martinique. The establishment of a sanctuary is led by DIREN Martinique in partnership with DIREN Guadeloupe.

Building civil society capacity for conservation in the UK overseas territories is a project of the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI). This project will focus on building organizational capability and skills of civil society in the UK OCTs to implement the CBD. It will also provide small grants to the participating organizations. Funded through the Darwin Initiative and implemented in collaboration with the Commonwealth Foundation.

SPAW-Regional Activity Centre (RAC) is hosted by the *Parc national de la Guadeloupe* (Guadeloupe National Park) and is funded by the Government of France. The RAC supports the implementation of the SPAW Protocol in the Wider Caribbean and works under the aegis of the Regional Coordination Unit for the Caribbean Environment Programme based in Kingston, Jamaica⁸³.

Guiana Shield

Trans-boundary Cooperation: French Guiana-Brazil-Suriname⁸⁴. The Programme 2007 – 2013 is EC funded (FEDER) to a maximum of 12,830,

79 www.acs-aec.org/About/SG/Girvan/Speeches/Caribbean_Sea.htm#_ftn1

80 www.acs-aec.org/PressCenter/NewsReleases/2010/nr062010_en.htm

81 www.acuns.org/programsan/sustainablegovernanceofthecaribbeansea

82 www.martinique.ecologie.gouv.fr/AGO/laquette/dpercentE9pliant-agoa-anglais.pdf

83 www.cep.unep.org

84 www.cr-guyane.fr/actualites/cooperation-regionale-po-amazone-2007-2013

million euro and coordinated by a Secretariat based in French Guiana. Projects include collaboration between protected areas in French Guiana and Brazil, work with WWF on increasing tourism benefits from turtle watching in French Guiana and Suriname; and biodiversity, environmental and cultural awareness in French Guiana, Brazil and Suriname.

Indian Ocean

Programme for the Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystems (ASCLME)⁸⁵: includes the nine countries of the Western Indian Ocean region, including Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles. It is centred on the two large marine ecosystems (LMEs) of the western Indian Ocean (1) the Somali Current LME – which extends from the Comoros Islands and the northern tip of Madagascar up to the horn of Africa, and (2) the Agulhas Current LME which stretches from the northern end of the Mozambique Channel to Cape Agulhas. The project is funded by GEF and implemented by UNDP with a budget of USD 12,200,000.00. **The South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Project (SWIOFP)**⁸⁶ and **Addressing Land Based Activities in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO-LaB)**⁸⁷ are ‘sister projects’ of the ASCLME project.

Regional Programme for the Sustainable Management of the Coastal Zones of the Countries of the Indian Ocean (ReCoMAP/PROGECO)⁸⁸ is an initiative of the Indian Ocean Commission, funded by the European Union for a total of €18 million. The Programme started in August 2006 and is scheduled to end in 2011. Project documents state that it involves seven focus countries of the region, namely the Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Kenya, the Seychelles, Somalia and Tanzania. Therefore it would seem that the EU overseas entities are not project beneficiaries.

Macaronesia

INTERREG IIB Azores-Madeira- Canary Islands⁸⁹ was a European Union Commission fund that contributed EUR 145.1 million to the Azores-Madeira-Canary Islands transnational cooperation area between Portugal and Spain through the Community

Initiative Programme. This fund was completed in 2006 but has been replaced by **Programa MAC 2007 – 2013 Cooperacion Transnacional**⁹⁰. A number of important projects were funded through Interreg and PCT-MAC:

- Project *Atlantico* – A database of the Macaronesian Biodiversity – Madeira, Azores and the Canary Islands. Atlantico was developed between 2000 and 2006. The database improves access of biodiversity information for decision-making.
- Project *BASEMAC* – an ex-situ conservation project for the threatened endemic species of Madeira, Azores and Canary Islands. Seed collections of species were stored in seed banks and cooperation was fostered between the Botanical Gardens in each territory.
- Project *Bionatura* – Management and Conservation of Macaronesian Biodiversity – between 2006 and 2008 - main objective was the production of a priority species list and a list of the most important exotic species in Macaronesia.
- Project *MACETUS* – Creation of a Macaronesian Network for the study of cetaceans –This was a joint effort to study common populations of different marine mammal species, including the study of population structure and use of habitat.
- Project *OGAMP* – Planning and Management of Marine Protected Areas – started in 2001 and had as main purpose to promote the Integrated Coastal Zone Plans for those marine and coastal areas included in Natura 2000 network.
- Project *Reia-Mac* – Network of Environmental Education and Information Centres in Madeira, Azores and the Canary islands.

85 www.asclme.org

86 www.swiofp.net

87 www.asclme.org/wio-lab.html

88 recomap-io.org/home

89 www.interreg-mac.org/es/index.jsp

90 www.pct-mac.org

Oceania

Coral Sea Heritage Park⁹¹: The Pew Environment Group is proposing the establishment of a fully protected marine park in the Coral Sea that will provide a safe haven for marine life and recognize its historic significance. Extending east from the Great Barrier Reef, the Heritage Park would encompass Australia's maritime boundary with Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and New Caledonia; it would cover about one million km².

Pacific Invasive Initiative (PII)⁹² is a programme of the Cooperative Initiative on Invasive Alien Species on Islands (CII), from the New Zealand Government. It provides assistance with capacity development for invasive species management and is based at The University of Auckland. PII has carried out projects in French Polynesia and New Caledonia.

Protecting Coral Reefs in South Pacific (also CRISP)⁹³: FGEF and *Agence Française de Développement* (AFD) have pledged, alongside the United Nations Foundation, Conservation International and WWF, to provide support for the implementation of sustainable management measures for Coral Reefs in the South Pacific. Partnerships between Australia, New Zealand and the French OCTs have been developed. This project was started in 2005 with financing of 3 million euro AFD grant and 2 million euro FGEF grant.

South-Atlantic Ocean

South Atlantic Invasive Species Programme (SAISP)⁹⁴ took place between 2006 and 2009 funded under the EU EDF 9th Programme and implemented by RSPB in collaboration with the governments of St. Helena, Tristan da Cunha, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands, Falkland Islands (Malvinas) and Ascension Island and NGOs in Falkland Islands (Malvinas) and St. Helena. Its purpose was to increase regional capacity to reduce detrimental impacts of invasives in the South Atlantic. Work on individual islands is now on-going but continued funding is needed and lacking.

91 www.globaloceanlegacy.org/coralsea

92 www.issg.org/cii/pii/index.html

93 www.afd.fr/jahia/Jahia/site/afd/lang/en/pid/11105

94 www.rspb.org.uk/ourwork/projects/details/194527-south-atlantic-invasive-species-project

Appendix 3. Regional Non-Governmental Mechanisms and Programmes

Multi-regional

Bird Life, Important Bird Areas Programme (IBA)⁹⁵ aims to identify, protect and manage a network of sites that are important for the long-term viability of naturally occurring bird populations, across the geographical range of those bird species. They are selected such that, taken together, they form a network throughout the species' biogeographic distributions. Regional IBAs are at different stages of development but confirmed or proposed IBAs exist for:

- African IBA – including Mayotte, Scattered Islands and Reunion;
- Antarctic IBA;
- European IBA – including Azores, Canaries and Madeira;
- Pacific IBA – including Wallis and Futuna, New Caledonia, French Polynesia and Pitcairn;
- Marine IBA – Antarctic, Macaronesia, South-East Atlantic.

Conservation International (CI) Biodiversity Hotspots – Identification of hotspots help inform CI conservation resources and planning. CI targets for hotspots include looking at threatened species; key biodiversity areas; and landscapes. CI is also a part of the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)⁹⁶. Relevant regions in which biodiversity hotspots have been identified include:

- Caribbean Islands – including all EU overseas entities in that region;
- Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands – including Mayotte and Scattered Islands and Reunion;
- New Caledonia;
- Polynesia-Micronesia – including French Polynesia and Wallis and Futuna.

International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN)⁹⁷ is a network of many of the world's leading coral reef science and conservation organizations. The network consolidates scientific expertise in reef monitoring and management to create strategically linked actions across local, national and global scales. ICRAN works to build resource stewardship within communities by providing opportunities to develop the skills and tools needed to ensure the sustainable use, and the long-term vitality of coral reefs. Relevant regions that ICRAN works in:

- The Caribbean;
- Western Indian Ocean;
- Oceania – Coral Reef Initiative for the South Pacific (CRISP)⁹⁸ in partnership with SPREP.

International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)

Relevant regions include:

- The Caribbean (marine awareness);
- Macaronesia (whale research);
- Oceania (migratory marine species).

IUCN - Relevant programmes and regions covered:

- Central and West Africa Programme – Macaronesia;
- Europe – EU Outermost Regions and Overseas Countries and Territories Programme;
- Mesoamerica programme and Caribbean Initiative – the Caribbean;
- South America Regional Programme – Guiana Shield;
- East and Southern Africa Programme – Indian Ocean;
- Oceania Programme;
- Ecosystem Management Programme - Islands Initiative.

IUCN National Committee of France⁹⁹ is the national grouping of 55 IUCN members and more than 250 voluntary scientists and experts, based in France. The overseas territories are one of the geographical priorities of the IUCN National Committee of France. Its specific

95 www.birdlife.org/action/science/sites/index.html

96 www.cepf.net/Pages/default.aspx

97 www.icran.org/index.html

98 www.icran.org/action-crisp.html

99 www.uicn.fr

programme is organised around three main strategic areas: enhancing and disseminating knowledge, influencing public policies, and reinforcing the actions of local stakeholders. The programme is implemented through specific working groups that brings together some 100 experts from 48 public and private organisations present and/or working in the overseas territories.

IUCN National Committee of the Netherlands¹⁰⁰ is a national grouping of the 35 IUCN members based in the Netherlands. The IUCN National Committee of the Netherlands has played a key role in lobbying for increased financial support from the Dutch government and postcode lottery for conservation in the Netherlands OCTs.

Pew Environmental Group – Global Ocean Legacy¹⁰¹ aims to establish three to five no-take marine reserves over five years that will provide ecosystem-scale benefits and help conserve the world's global marine heritage. Relevant projects include:

- Chagos Archipelago Marine Park – Indian Ocean – established in April 2010;
- Coral Sea Heritage Park (proposed) – Oceania.

The International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI)¹⁰² is also a multiregional initiative with members from both governments and NGOS, including ICRAN, Reef Check, GCRMN and a number of Governments in the regions.

Reef Check is an international non-governmental organization dedicated to the conservation of coral reefs. The Foundation is headquartered in Los Angeles, USA but uses data from volunteer scuba diver teams in over 80 countries, ranging from Australia, Japan, to even Germany. It is the United Nations' official coral reef monitoring program Relevant regions that Reef Check operates include: The Caribbean, Indian Ocean and Oceania.

Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN)¹⁰³ is an informal network created under the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI), (Reef check is a member) which does worldwide monitoring of the health of coral reefs. It has been managed from Australia for many

years and has nodes in every region where coral reefs are found.

WWF¹⁰⁴ – has a programme that aims to conserve 19 Priority Places. Of these 19, the following relevant regions are included: Arctic, Coastal East Africa – Indian Ocean and partner in the Coral Triangle Initiative, marine species and fisheries policy and programmes – Oceania.

Arctic

Inuit Circumpolar Council¹⁰⁵ is an international NGO representing approximately 150,000 Inuit of Alaska, Canada, Greenland, and Chukotka (Russia). The organization holds Consultative Status II at the United Nations. One of its principal goals is to develop and encourage long term policies that safeguard the Arctic environment. Climate Change is a main programme area. ICC represents Inuit internationally at the CBD.

WWF Denmark¹⁰⁶ has a programme dedicated to Greenland focused on promoting sustainable management of Greenland's nature and wildlife, threats due to excessive hunting and climate change. Regional linkages are unclear.

Austral Ocean

Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition (ASOC)¹⁰⁷ brings together non-governmental organizations in 40 countries that aims to protect the Antarctic Continent, its surrounding islands and the Southern Ocean's survival as a wilderness for the heritage of future generations. Funding is through donations and membership dues. ASOC Secretariat is based in Washington, D.C. Campaigns include: unsustainable fishing, commercial tourism, environmental protocol, seamounts, krill conservation.

100 www.iucn.nl

101 www.globaloceanlegacy.org

102 www.icriforum.org

103 www.gcrmn.org

104 www.worldwildlife.org/what/wherewework/index.html

105 www.inuitcircumpolar.com

106 www.wwf.dk/dk

107 www.asoc.org

Caribbean

Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI)¹⁰⁸

works in the islands of the Caribbean to promote participation and effective collaboration in natural resource management for sustainable development. CANARI works with NGOs, community-based organizations, protected area management bodies and government agencies across the region, including ORs and OCTs.

Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA)¹⁰⁹ was established in 1995 as a network organization by and for the park management NGOs in each of the six islands of the Netherlands OCTs. The Secretariat is based in Bonaire. DCNA fundraises, provides institutional capacity building and lobbies for greater recognition, awareness and financial support for conservation in the Netherlands for the Dutch Caribbean.

Eastern Caribbean Coalition for Environmental Awareness (ECCEA)¹¹⁰ aims to link up environmental programmes and bring together environmental practitioners in both the English speaking and French speaking Eastern Caribbean islands – including EU overseas entities.

Netherlands Islands Coral Reef Initiative (NACRI)¹¹¹ was set up by organizations and agencies involved with nature conservation in the islands of the Netherlands Antilles to form regional and national initiatives to preserve their coral reefs. NACRI brings together marine park management organizations, government agencies, research institutes, NGOs and businesses such as the Curaçao Dive Operators' Association (CDOA) and the Bonairean Council of Underwater Resort Operators (CURO).

Southern Caribbean Cetacean Network (SCCN)¹¹² is a non-profit foundation dedicated to promoting research, awareness and protection of marine mammals and their habitats. The SCCN works mainly with the Dutch OCTs but is also developing links with

Venezuela and Suriname. Key partner is the voluntary Eastern Caribbean Cetacean Network (ECCN)¹¹³.

The Nature Conservancy¹¹⁴ is working in the region on Marine Protected Areas – specifically on improving management of protected areas 'The end of paper parks'. At present this work does not include any of the EU ORs and OCTs.

Guiana Shield

WWF Guianas¹¹⁵:

- *Guianas Forests and Environmental Conservation Project (GFCEP)* aims to conserve the Guiana Forest Ecoregion by mobilising conservation action on an eco-regional scale – protecting key sites and maintaining viable species populations in Suriname, French Guiana and Guyana. GFCEP seeks to promote partnerships among local communities, private and public sector institutions, international NGOs and funding organizations;
- *Conserving the natural resources of the Guianas* – aims to conserve the integrity of the forest and freshwater ecosystems of the Guianas – so that their social and economic roles are maintained. Programme objectives include interconnected PAs, improve management of the gold mining sector and improved governance of forests;
- *Atlantic Leatherback Turtle Trans-Oceanic Cooperation for Bycatch Reduction*.

108 www.canari.org/default.asp

109 www.dcnanature.org

110 www.eccea.org

111 www.nacri.org

112 www.sccnetwork.org/home

113 www.eccnwhale.org

114 www.nature.org/wherewework/caribbean/howwework

115 www.wwfguianas.org/newsroom/projects

Indian Ocean

Western Indian Ocean Marine Scientific Association (WIOMSA)¹¹⁶ is a regional, non-governmental, membership organization, based in Zanzibar, dedicated to the educational, scientific and technological development of marine sciences throughout the region of Western Indian Ocean (Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, Comoros, Madagascar, Seychelles, Mauritius, Reunion(France)), with a view toward sustaining the use and conservation of its marine resources. The Association includes about 1000 individual and 50 institutional members of marine scientists and coastal practitioners working in the region.

Oceania

Greenpeace Australia Pacific¹¹⁷ has a number of regional campaigns including one on climate change and deforestation. They are based in Australia, Fiji and PNG.

Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific International (FSPI)¹¹⁸ is the regional secretariat for a network of 10 independent community-based organizations working in the Pacific to foster self-reliance and sustainable development. Its Coastal Programme, and Disaster Programme are particularly relevant. There are no network partners in the OCTs.

Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (PIANGO)¹¹⁹ is a regional network of NGO focal points in 21 Pacific Island countries and territories. PIANGO was formally established in 1991 and it acts as a catalyst for collective action, to facilitate and support coalitions and alliances on issues of common concern, and to strengthen the influence and impact of NGO efforts in the region.

Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation (PIRNC)¹²⁰ is the Pacific's only voluntary membership-based network of non-government organisations, donors and regional organizations working in nature conservation in the region. PIRNC was formed in

1997 at the request of Pacific Island Countries and Territories. It serves as a forum whereby organizations working on nature conservation in the Pacific can improve their collaboration and coordination to increase effective conservation action. In particular it is the coordination mechanism for the implementation of the Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the Pacific Island Region 2008-2012 (see Appendix 2).

WWF South Pacific¹²¹ works on conservation and natural resource management across the region. It is based in Suva, Fiji. Key programme areas include climate change, coastal management, coral triangle, marine species and offshore fisheries.

116 www.wiomsa.net

117 www.greenpeace.org/australia

118 www.fspi.org.fj/index.php/home.html

119 www.piango.org

120 www.iucn.org/about/union/secretariat/offices/oceania/roundtable

121 www.wwfpacific.org.fj

Appendix 4. Bilateral and Multilateral Mechanisms

EU Mechanisms

EC DG Development Cooperation-EuropeAid has allocated 286 million euro of European development funding for OCTs in 2008-13. OCTs have been allocated:

- 195 million euro for specific programmes (all OCTs with a per capita GNP < the EU's);
- 40 million euro for regional cooperation and integration;
- 30 million euro is allocated to finance the OCT Investment Facility managed by the European Investment Bank (EIB);
- 6 million euro for technical assistance;
- 15 million euro for emergency aid.

EU-OCT Forum¹²² meets annually, bringing together OCT authorities, representatives of the Member States and the EC (as well as the European Investment Bank when matters concerning it are on the agenda) for dialogue. The EC chairs the OCT Forum and provides its secretariat. The aim is to enable the EU, all OCTs and the Member States to which they are linked to consult each other on the principles, detailed procedures and results of the association.

Forum for Outermost Europe¹²³ was established in May 2010 to raise awareness within European institutions and in EU Member States of the specific characteristics of ORs. This is a biennial forum which aims to improve dialogue with the ORs and raise their profile within the EU.

Networking tropical and subtropical biodiversity research in outermost regions and territories of Europe in Support of sustainable development (NET biome)¹²⁴ is a consortium of mainly OR and OCT institutions and governments aimed at networking the regional research

policies on sustainable management of biodiversity in the European tropical and subtropical overseas entities, which began in 2007. It is funded by the European Union's 6th Framework Programme on Research and Technical Development at 2,518 million euro.

Overseas Countries and Territories of the European Union Association (OCTA) aims to provide a forum sharing specific information on issues of interest and benefit to all OCTs and to represent the interests of OCTs in the institutions of the EU. It has developed a number of working relationships with the EU institutions, the ACP-Group and its Secretariat and other relevant international, multi-lateral and regional organizations and institutions.

The Annual Conference of Presidents of the ORs¹²⁵ brings together the seven presidents of the ORs - Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Martinique, Reunion, the Azores, Madeira and the Canary Islands - representatives of the EC and the three Member States concerned (France, Spain and Portugal), as well as members of the European Parliament. The Conference of Presidents of the Outermost Regions was set up in 1995 in response to the desire of the seven ORs to get their special nature known within the European Community.

National mechanisms

Institute of Development Research (IRD – France)¹²⁶ is a scientific research institute looking at sustainable development issues internationally. It is active in the French overseas entities, and especially in New Caledonia.

122 www.eeas.europa.eu/oct/forum/index_en.htm

123 ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/conferences/rup2010/index_en.htm

124 www.netbiome.org/images/stories/newsletter/NetBiome_newsletter_2009_01.pdf

125 www.eu2008.fr/PFUE/lang/en/accueil/PFUE-10_2008/PFUE-27.10.2008/XIVe_conference_presidents_rup.html

126 www.ird.nc

Insular Research Center and Environment Observatory (CRIOBE – France)¹²⁷ is a field station for French and international researchers located in French Polynesia focused on applied and fundamental research and training on the Polynesian coralline ecosystem.

Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC)¹²⁸ is a statutory body that advises the UK Government on UK-wide and OTs conservation. JNCC has a programme dedicated to UKOT conservation issues and coordinates a decision-making group focused on UKOT biodiversity issues.

UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum (UKOTCF) is a coordinating NGO for voluntary organizations, governments and non-governmental organizations in the UK and the OTs and provides advice on conservation and biodiversity in the UKOTs and advocates on their behalf.

UK Overseas Territories Association (UKOTA) is a body of OT Government representatives based in the UK. The Association's purpose is to promote the interests of the UK OCTs and co-operation between them. There is an environment group which is currently headed by the St. Helena UK Representative and who represents the UKOTA in the OT Biodiversity Partnership.

Caribbean

Agoa: Project for the Marine Mammal Sanctuary in the French West Indies¹²⁹ aims to make the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) of the French West Indies a sanctuary for cetaceans. This would extend protection to 200 marine miles from the shores of French Caribbean overseas entities. The project was initiated by the Eastern Caribbean Coalition for Environmental Awareness (ECCEA), and is promoted by Association Evasion Tropicale (AET) and Association BREACH in Guadeloupe, as well as Society for the Study, Protection and Management of Nature in Martinique (SEPANMAR). The establishment of a sanctuary is led by DIREN Martinique in partnership with DIREN Guadeloupe.

Building civil society capacity for conservation in the UK overseas territories is a project of the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI). This project will focus on building organizational capability and skills of civil society in the UKOTs to implement the CBD. It will also provide small grants to the participating organizations. Funded through the Darwin Initiative and implemented in collaboration with the Commonwealth Foundation.

Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA) programme consists of a number of multi-island capacity building projects for park management NGOs in the Dutch Caribbean OCTs. Six monthly meetings help to share information between the OCTs.

South-Atlantic Ocean

South Atlantic Invasive Species Programme (SAISP)¹³⁰ – although complete (2006 – 2009), it is included again because it is one of the few regional initiatives for this area; funded under the EU EDF 9 and implemented by RSPB in collaboration with the governments of St. Helena, Tristan da Cunha, Ascension Island, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands, Falkland Islands (Malvinas) and NGOs in Falkland Islands (Malvinas) and St. Helena.

127 criobe.wordpress.com/le-site-du-criobe-a-ete-deplace/language-english/the-criobe

128 www.jncc.defra.gov.uk

129 www.martinique.ecologie.gouv.fr/AGOA/plaquette/dpercentE9pliant-agoa-anglais.pdf

130 www.rspb.org.uk/ourwork/projects/details/194527-south-atlantic-invasive-species-project



**INTERNATIONAL UNION
FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE**

EUROPEAN UNION OUTERMOST REGIONS
AND OVERSEAS COUNTRIES AND
TERRITORIES PROGRAMME

Rue Mauverney 28
1196 Gland
Switzerland
Tel +41 22 999 0000
Fax +41 22 999 0020
euoverseas@iucn.org
www.iucn.org/euoverseas



Ministère
de l'Écologie,
du Développement
durable,
des Transports
et du Logement



Ministère chargé
de l'Outre-mer