

Mid-Year Project Report (2019):

*"Impact Assessment of Climate Change on the Sandy
Shorelines of the Caribbean: Alternatives for its
Control and Resilience"*

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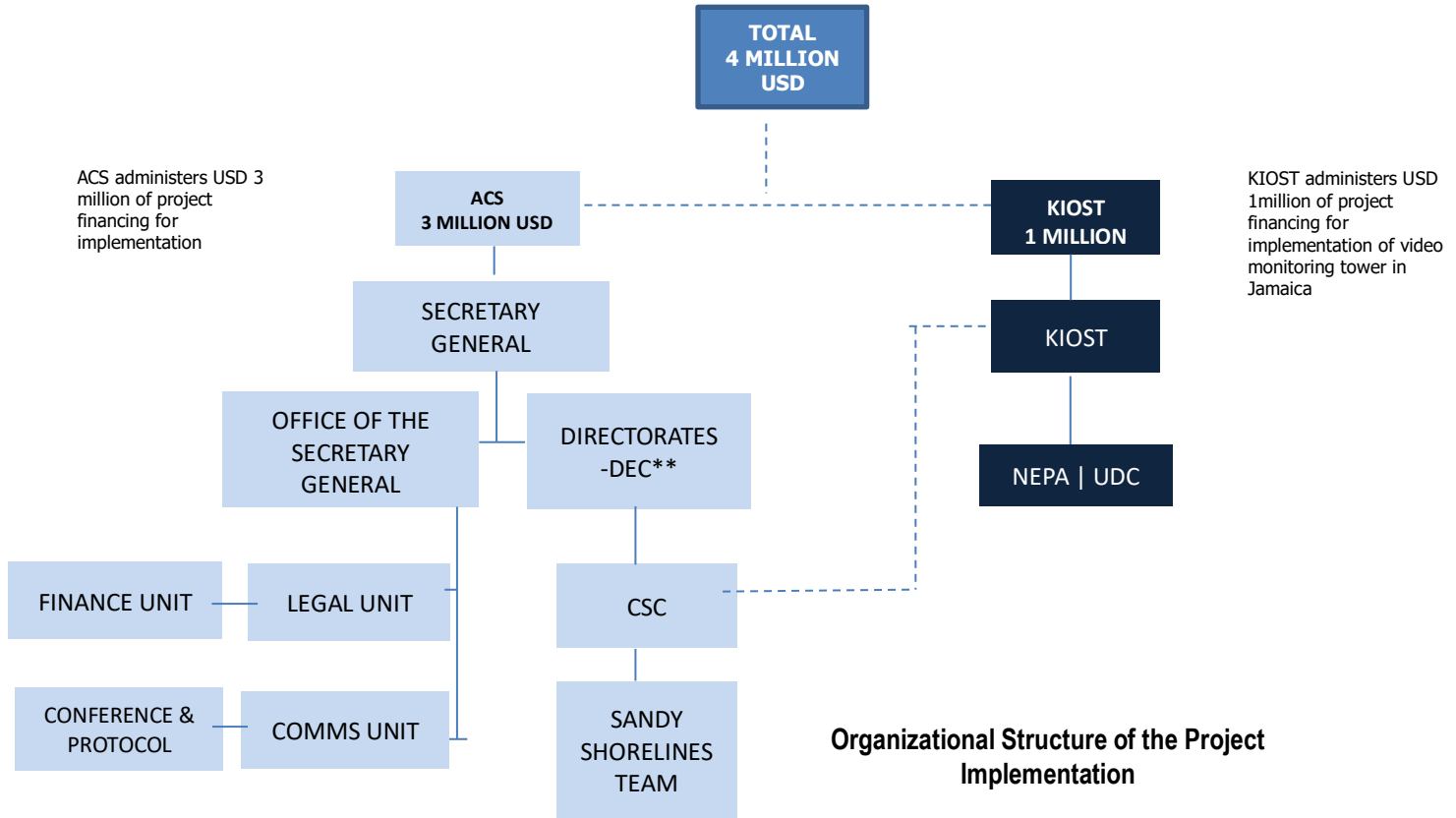
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ACRONYMS

ACS	Association of Caribbean States
CITMA	Ministry of Science, Technology and Industry (Cuba)
CSC	Caribbean Sea Commission
CZMU	Coastal Zone Management Unit (Barbados)
DECS	Directorate for Disaster Risk Reduction, Environment and the Caribbean Sea
ICIMAR	Institute of Ocean Science (Cuba)
INVEMAR	Institute for Marine and Coastal Research (Colombia)
KOICA	Korean International Cooperation Agency
THE KIOST	Korean Institute of Ocean Science and Technology
OSG	Office of the Secretary General

1. PROJECT OVERVIEW

1.1. Operations Overview



Organizational Structure of the Project Implementation

As stated in the 2018 Annual Report, the ACS finalised its internal restructuring exercise in 2019. The Caribbean Sea Commission (CSC) was formally incorporated into the ACS under the Directorate for Disaster Risk Reduction, Environment and the Caribbean Sea (DECS) - formerly the Directorate of Disaster Risk Reduction. Therefore, the Sandy Shorelines Project is now under the portfolio of the DECS. The Commission Programme Coordinator – while retaining their responsibilities within the Commission was re-assigned as the *Advisor of the Directorate of Disaster Risk Reduction, Environment and the Caribbean Sea*.

As of May, 2019, Mr Alexander Girvan, the Advisor of the DECS (and former CSC Programme Coordinator) demitted office. His position remains vacant at the time of this report. The ACS is currently in the process of recruiting a suitable replacement.

The Project Manager and Project Assistant are unaffected by these changes.

2. PERFORMANCE REVIEW

2.2 Activities Undertaken and Results Achieved

In 2019, the project ensues with work with the Focal Points under Component 1 while also implementing Components 3 and 4. This section summarises these components, the activities implemented under each component and the main achievements/highlights for the first two quarters of 2019.

COMPONENT 1: Establishment of Focal Point Network and Needs Assessment

- **ACTIVITY 1.3 - Focal Point Meetings**

The **Fourth Focal Point Meeting** was convened on 4th July 2019 at the National Aquarium in Havana, Cuba. At this meeting, the countries discussed their commitments under Components 3 and 4:

- Formal submission of the list of beach monitoring equipment (Activity 3.1)
- The selection process for the Beach Rehabilitation Projects (Activity 4.1)

The Focal Points agreed to submit their final lists of equipment to the ACS Secretariat via official correspondence by **19th July, 2019**.

These lists can be found in **Annex 1**.

- **ACTIVITY 1.4 – Technical Advisory Group (TAG)**

For 2019, a new activity was added under Component 1: Activity 1.4 – Technical Advisory Group.

To assist with the implementation of Components 3 and 4, the Project Management Unit has contracted a group of experts, to form part of a Technical Advisory Group (TAG). This group will serve as the Primary Technical Advisory Body to the project team. The TAG comprises of not only contracted experts but also representatives of the ACS/CSC, the Project Technical Coordinator – the Ministry of Science and Technology of Cuba (CITMA) and the KOICA (donor agency).

Each expert worked with one (1) or two (2) Member States on the following:

- (i) *Revision of National Coastal Monitoring Plans:* The TAG members worked with the assigned country's focal point to revise and improve this National Plan based on the needs, capacity, identified risks to implementation and particular coastal

vulnerabilities of the strategy. Countries will use these plans as a guide for their national coastal protection policies.

- (ii) *Technical specifications - monitoring equipment*: The TAG members will work to assess the quantity and technical specifications of the equipment needed for the successful implementation of the modified National Coastal Monitoring Plan.
- (iii) *Beach Rehabilitation Projects*: Here the TAG members will analyse and develop evaluation methodology to assess the proposals submitted by the ten (10) beneficiary countries.

The countries have been grouped as follows:

Group A : Guatemala, Panama, Costa Rica Group B: Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago

Group C: Grenada, Antigua & Barbuda Group D: the Dominican Republic, Cuba

Group E: Haiti

The members of the Technical Advisory Group:

- Dr Constanza Ricaurte Villota (Group A)
- Dr Leo Brewster (Group B)
- Dr Patricia-Chardón Maldonado (Group D - Cuba)
- Dr Miguel Canals (Group D - Dominican Republic)
- Mr. Ywenn de la Torre (Group C & E)
- Dr Jose Luis Juanes Martí (Technical Leader)

The profiles of the TAG consultants are attached *in Annex 2* of this report.

To date, the TAG members have held four (4) meetings: two (2) virtual and two (2) physical meetings.

The **First Meeting of the Technical Advisory Group** was held on 25th-26th April, 2019 at the ACS Headquarters in Trinidad and Tobago. This meeting provided an opportunity for the TAG members to meet and begin discussing the terms of their assignments. Over the course of two (2) days, the TAG members and the project team discussed (i) country assignments, (ii) contracts and (iii) responsibilities and project deliverables.

The TAG members were also formally introduced to their assigned focal points and began their duties.

The Meeting Report is attached as **Annex 3**.

The **Second Meeting of the Technical Advisory Group** was a virtual meeting held on 20th May, 2019. During this meeting, the TAG members discussed their feedback on the National Plans of their assigned countries. Collectively as a group, the TAG members also began discussing the selection criteria for the three (3) executive projects under Component 4. The Meeting Report is attached as **Annex 4**.

The **Third Meeting of the Technical Advisory Group** was a virtual meeting held on 18th June, 2019. The TAG members defined the standard equipment needed to conduct beach monitoring according to three classifications:

- **Beginner** - countries with no experience in beach monitoring and therefore starting their monitoring programmes at the inception phase.
- **Intermediate** – countries with some knowledge and experience conducting beach monitoring.
- **Advanced** – countries with experience and knowledge in monitoring and possess in-depth knowledge of the latest technologies.

The TAG members also classified the countries according to monitoring capacity as follows:

Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced
Haiti Guatemala	Antigua and Barbuda Costa Rica Dominican Republic Jamaica Panama Trinidad and Tobago	Cuba

There was also further discussion on the Beach Rehabilitation Projects selection process. The TAG members developed the selection criteria to be considered for the Beach Rehabilitation process. With this information, the project created a template which each country will be required to complete in order to be considered for one of the three (3) rehabilitation projects available.

Furthermore, the **Fourth Workshop of the Technical Advisory Group and the Focal Points of the Sandy Shorelines Project** was a workshop held with the TAG members and the focal points of the project in Havana, Cuba on 3rd July, 2019 at the National Aquarium of Cuba. During this workshop, the TAG members and their assigned

focal points were afforded the opportunity to work together (i) to finalise their lists of monitoring equipment and (ii) begin planning their proposals for the beach rehabilitation projects.

The Meeting Report is attached as **Annex 5**.

In the coming weeks, the TAG will finalise the evaluation table, according to the selection criteria for the Beach Rehabilitation Projects.

Enclosed are the report and the list of the **equipment determined by the TAG – attached as Annex 6**.

COMPONENT 3: Establishment of Regional Erosion Monitoring Network

The Establishment of the Regional Monitoring Network is divided into two (2) activities: procurement and regional monitoring network.

- ***ACTIVITY 3.1: Procurement of Equipment***

For 2019, the project will procure and deliver the monitoring equipment to each country. Currently, the team is in the process to recruit a Procurement Specialist to oversee the bidding process and to ensure delivery of the equipment. This Specialist will be contracted for a period of approximately 3-4 months.

With the support of the TAG, the countries have submitted their final lists of equipment which the Procurement Specialist will be responsible for acquiring.

The project anticipates equipment delivery in November 2019 to the beneficiary countries.

- ***ACTIVITY 3.2 Establishment of National Erosion Monitoring Networks***

After the delivery and installation of the equipment, the countries will begin their monitoring activities. The project team will ensure that each country receives training on the use of the equipment provided and will provide a budget to cover the expenses for a local monitoring team to carry out their work for a period of six (6) months.

COMPONENT 4: Preparing Beach Rehabilitation Projects and Monitoring Beach Erosion Process

- ***ACTIVITY 4.1 - Beach Rehabilitation Projects in 3 Prioritized Sites***

The TAG has finalised the Beach Rehabilitation template and selection criteria for the countries to submit their proposals under this Component. This template was submitted to the focal points of each country. Countries are required to submit their proposals nominating a beach site for rehabilitation by **19th September, 2019.**

From the submissions received, five (5) countries will be shortlisted. For the next phase of the selection process, the TAG members will travel to each country and verify the information submitted. As group, the TAG will choose the three (3) successful sites in the three (3) chosen countries.