



# IPReM

*Greater Caribbean 2023*

IDENTIFICATION | PROTECTION | RESTORATION | MANAGEMENT

**JUNE 28th-30th, PANAMA**

*Science and technology for sustainable beaches  
in a climate change scenario*



When coastal development is planned, human rights processes that ensure access to information with full and effective participation can stop harm to people and the environment. The local knowledge fills many gaps that science cannot fill. Communities on the coast line see, observe changes taking place so their voice in the design processes for adaptation is critical but also in mitigation to build resilience .

**“INCLUSION AND PARTICIPATION OF LOCAL  
COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS INTEGRAL TO  
SUCCESS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF  
INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT**

More than 2,000 people have now put their names to a petition demanding the project be scaled back.

*Campaigners fear for the future of cherished Seaforth Beach which falls within the project’s environs .* since the plans infringe on the country’s largest wetland, home to rare and endemic wildlife. The area has long been a popular haunt for fishers, hikers and birdwatchers who fear for its future if the development goes ahead unabridged. There are 7 hiking trails-93 species of birds, 200 acres of mangroves areas that are ecologically sensitive, with bio-diverse spawning areas for marine life and, ultimately, food security for the nation.



## The Road Map-P10-Escazu Agreement



179 countries meeting in Rio 26 years ago decided that environmental issues because they were cross-cutting in nature should not be handled by governments alone, but should involve input from all requisite stakeholders and the public especially civil society, should be central to all levels of the decision-making process. Further, that environmental information especially the kind that may prove hazardous to the health of the environment and that of the people, that is in the custody of public authorities should be disseminated to the public in a timely manner. Our full engagement and participation will ensure that we contribute our local knowledge and in terms i that we can understand

*Ruth Spencer*



# The Way forward

- IPBES assessments the scientific arm for Biodiversity all have ILK processes
- The Science Policy Panel is being set up for the Chemicals and Waste and will have local knowledge holders as part of the process
- UNEP GEO-7 Intergovernmental and Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group has IPLC's. This process will include a workshop for IPLC's, requested by certain Parties who will fund this component .



## The Power is in the people

Letters were written by various people to several government departments raising concerns about the project's potential legal infringements.

We appealed to the public to join a walk-through of the area tipped for development.”

We encouraged as many people as possible to come as the more people become sensitised to the area, the more they can relate to the issues raised in the petition.

A lot of people have never even been there so this is a chance to come and see it – and appreciate why it needs protecting. Government previously denied the development posed a threat to the environment.

Environment Minister Sir Molwyn Joseph said work would be carried out sustainably and ultimately create hundreds of jobs

