

## Marine Resource Governance in the Eastern Caribbean (MarGov Project)



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**Implementing organization:** Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES), UWI, Cave Hill. Barbados.

**CERMES principal co-investigators:** Dr. Patrick McConney (MarGov Project Manager) and Professor Robin Mahon

**Geographic coverage:** Eastern Caribbean (OECS and Barbados)

**Project period:** March 2007 to February 2011

**Grant funding:** International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada

### Overview:

Many people in the eastern Caribbean depend on the good governance and sustainable development of the marine environment for their livelihoods.

With this in mind, CERMES has embarked on a four-year research project into marine resource governance in the eastern Caribbean that aims to influence marine resource management decision making at the individual and policy levels.

#### • **The Challenge:**

To develop among stakeholders marine resource governance systems that are more resilient and can better adapt to issues as they arise, while building adaptive capacity into present and planned marine resource management initiatives.

#### • **The Approach:**

The MarGov researchers are mapping the linkages between marine stakeholders in order to evaluate strengths and weaknesses within those networks that could help or hinder good governance practices in fisheries and coastal management in the eastern Caribbean.

### Stakeholders are:

**Policy Makers:** high level government officials, heads of major corporations, heads of major NGOs and regional organisations, high level media executives

**Change Agents:** marine and fisheries management authorities, university researchers, mid-level technocrats/advisors

**Resources Users:** fisher folk, coastal communities, coastal developers, general public, media representatives

**Project partners:** funding agencies and evaluators

### Major Expected Outcomes

1. Stakeholders take more co-operative approaches to tackling marine resource issues.
2. Research results are incorporated into marine governance policies.
3. New policies enable self-organised stakeholders to respond more effectively and efficiently to issues.
4. Researchers better understand the factors that enhance resilience and adaptive capacity in responding to issues