



Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network (BES-Net) Trinidad and Tobago Project

Background

The Nairobi-based Global Policy Centre on Resilient Ecosystems and Desertification (GC-RED) is one of UNDP's Global Policy Centers. GC-RED manages the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network (BES-Net), a capacity sharing "network of networks" initiative that promotes dialogue and cooperation among science, policy and practice communities for effective biodiversity and ecosystem services (BES) management, contributing to long-term human well-being and sustainable development.

In partnership with the UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre, the first phase of BES-Net initiative (2016-2020), BES-Net I, has been contributing to the capacity building work of the Intergovernmental Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).

A BES-Net Phase II program offered Trinidad and Tobago the opportunity to participate in the second phase of the BES-Net project. This seeks to formalize the scientists-policymakers-practitioners partnership and strengthen synergy and complementarity in their BES-related actions for sustainable BES conservation in target countries.

This offer to Trinidad and Tobago was made based on priority actions points coming out of the Caribbean Regional Dialogue on Pollinators, Food Security and Climate Resilience held in 2018, including the need for catalytic financial support to pollinators and the protection of Trinidad and Tobago's key ecosystem services.

Trinidad and Tobago has already undertaken voluntary, national implementation efforts, such as the establishment of an interactive online platform for tracking of pollinator/pest species, the organization of beekeeping training events and the nomination of an IPBES Bureau member for the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Region.



BES-Net Trinidad & Tobago Project, 2021-2023

Issues facing pollinators in Trinidad and Tobago largely stem from a lack of data, public awareness and pollinator-appropriate management. This project aims to address these challenges by engaging a broad range of stakeholders through a range of activities including:

- Assessments of the state of knowledge of pollinators and practices affecting pollinators
- Compilation of databases on local plants and pollinators, with attention to crops and horticultural interests
- Research on local pollinator species
- Development of stingless bee (Meliponini) honey standards
- Public awareness and citizen science initiatives
- Development of educational materials on pollinators and their conservation
- Development of policy recommendations pertaining to pollinator conservation legislation.



Expected Project Outcomes:

- Improved scientific knowledge of pollinators and pollination services in Trinidad and Tobago for improved decision-making
- Improved conservation of pollinators and pollination services through improved plans and policies
- The provision of education, tools and support to improve the practice and application of pollinator and pollination science in multiple contexts

For more information on the Trinidad and Tobago component of BES-Net II, please contact:

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The Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network (BES-Net) is jointly implemented by:



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